

Jordanian shoots 5 in California

EL CAJON, California (AP) — A Jordanian man told police he shot five people to death in a home in this San Diego suburb on Saturday, and asked to be shot before being persuaded to surrender, a police spokesman said. "An officer talked to the man for at least 30 minutes and talked him into putting his gun down and coming out," said Lieutenant Bob Lein. Toufiq Badhi Naddi, 44, wore pajamas when he walked out of the home with his hands raised, said officer Gary Creason. Naddi told police the victims, two women and three men, were members of his family. Creason said. Police around "received a telephone call from a man saying he was from Jordan, saying he had just killed four people in a house and (he) wanted police officers to shoot him," Lt. Lein said. Officers found the bodies of four adults in several rooms inside the home, and a fifth person found wounded later died, he said. "We still don't have a motive," said Lt. Lein, who added that Naddi used a pistol.

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Rifai describes U.S. talks successful

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai, who returned to Amman Sunday from London, described the talks which His Majesty King Hussein held with President Reagan and U.S. administration officials in Washington last week as useful and successful. He said the talks resulted in deeper understanding by Jordan and the United States of each other's position, and helped to define the points on which they agree and disagree. Speaking upon his return after taking part in the Washington meetings as member of the Jordanian delegation, Mr. Rifai said that both sides agreed during the meetings that they should pursue contacts and continue a dialogue in a bid to bring both sides' views closer together. Mr. Rifai accompanied the King and Queen to London from Washington on Saturday and flew to Amman Sunday. The King and Queen are on a private visit to Britain during which the King will meet British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and undergo medical check-ups.

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Businessmen elect new board

AMMAN (J.T.) — Hamdoun Abu Hassan was elected president of the Jordanian Businessmen's Association Sunday at a meeting of the association held at the Amman Chamber of Commerce. During the meeting, which was attended by Interior Minister Hassan Al Kayed and founding members of the association, Ibrahim Al Zain was elected vice-president, Thabet Al Taher was elected secretary and Khalid Al Kana'an was elected treasurer and Hamdi Al Tabba, Issam Budair, Khalil Al Talbouni, Fouad Qattan and Dr. Subhi Al Tibi were chosen members of the new administrative board.

Gaza resistance cell reportedly uncovered

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israeli forces have uncovered a 13-man Palestinian resistance cell in the occupied Gaza Strip which it suspects committed several anti-Israeli attacks in the area with weapons bought from Israelis. Israel Radio reported Sunday. The radio said the weapons were stolen by Israelis from army stores and sold to Palestinians who allegedly attacked several Gaza residents they suspected of collaborating with Israel, the radio said. The military spokesman's office said it could not confirm the report.

Lebanese air base commander killed

BEIRUT (AP) — Col. Suleiman Daoud Mazloum, commander of a Lebanese air force base in Syrian-controlled east Lebanon, was assassinated by unidentified gunmen Sunday, a military spokesman said. It said a carload of gunmen, intercepted Col. Mazloum's private car near his home in the village of Ablah in the Bekaa Valley and raked it with automatic rifle fire. Col. Mazloum was killed instantly, the spokesman said. His son was seriously wounded. The gunmen drove away. Col. Mazloum commanded the air force base at Riyah in the Bekaa. It is the main base for Lebanon's air force, now virtually without any serviceable aircraft.

Shamir arrives in London

LONDON (R) — Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir arrived in London Sunday to brief British leaders about his government's attitude to efforts by Jordan to break the stalemate in the Middle East peace process. Mr. Shamir, who is on a three-day official visit to Britain, was to have talks with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and his British counterpart Sir Geoffrey Howe. Mrs. Thatcher was also due to meet King Hussein, who arrived Saturday.

Israeli foreign reserves fall

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel's foreign reserves fell by \$61 million last month to \$2.025 billion, a Bank of Israel spokesman said Sunday. It was the biggest drop in three months for the economically troubled nation, which has had over 100 per cent inflation for the second consecutive year. Reserves fell by \$54 million in March and by \$44 million in April.

INSIDE

- * Sudan forms team to draft election law, page 2
- * Ministry official leaves for Tunis meeting on marketing West Bank produce, page 3
- * Increasing role for Arab-Americans, page 4
- * Journalist throws more light into ambiguities over downed Korean airliner, page 5
- * IOC director to quit, page 6
- * Price increases ease in rich countries, page 7
- * Gandhi, Jayewardene hold talks on Tamil revolt, page 8

Amal men storm Al Bass camp

Militiamen extend assaults to south; refugee leaders appeal to Arab states

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Militiamen of the Lebanese Shi'ite Amal movement stormed a Palestinian refugee camp in South Lebanon Sunday and maintained siege on other refugee camps in the Lebanese capital where sporadic skirmishes continued.

Other clashes between rival Lebanese forces flared in Beirut and in South Lebanon in the latest spasm in Lebanon's 10-year-old civil war.

The two-week old Amal assault against Palestinian camps spread to the south when Amal men swept into the Al Bass refugee camp near Tyre, 60 kilometres south of Beirut.

The militiamen stormed the camp and took away an unknown number of the Palestinian residents, according to reports reaching here. There was no immediate word on casualties in Al Bass, which has an estimated population of 10,000.

It was the second clash in two days outside Beirut, raising fears that the Amal-Palestinian confrontation is spreading from the capital.

The two sides fought with artillery near Baalbek in east Lebanon Friday night. Tension rose in the 'Ain Al Hilwa camp outside the southern port of Sidon after Palestinians began fortifying their camp.

An International Red Cross team evacuated Sunday brought 29 wounded from the sprawling Bourj Al Barajneh camp in south Beirut. Rescuers said many others remain trapped inside.

Amal militiamen dragged two wounded men from the ambulances, ripping off their bandages to check they had been hurt and were not fighters trying to escape.

One of the Palestinians, Mohammad Sleiman, 33, was dragged out twice before the six ambulances reached a hospital in Shweifat, which is controlled by the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP).

"I was very lucky," he told reporters. "One of the Amal fighters recognised me. He used to be a friend of mine. He made them let me go."

Sleiman, who was shot in the hand earlier Sunday, said that hundreds of Palestinians have been killed in Bourj Al Barajneh since Amal launched its assault May 19.

"They're digging pits for mass graves," he said. "They put 20 or 30 bodies in the graves. Things are very bad. There's no water. The children are dying."

Red Cross teams have now evacuated 95 wounded from Bourj Al Barajneh in three mercy missions. Officials said scores more still are trapped in the sprawling camp. Police said 40 bodies were recovered from the nearby Sabra and Shatila camps Saturday night.

Sunday's evacuation came as the refugees "popular committee," which run day-to-day affairs in the camps, appealed to Arab leaders and international relief agencies to intervene to "save lives."

A statement said: "There are hundreds of wounded. Scores of wounded have died and the children are dying of hunger and of disease. Houses are being blown up and set ablaze and hundreds of civilians are being seized."

Palestinian spokesmen Saturday said disease is spreading in the camps, including what is believed to be cholera.

Police said at least two people were killed and 18 wounded in overnight skirmishes that strained a ceasefire called by Amal and observed by the Palestinians Friday night.

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Palestinian spokesmen reported no major assaults Sunday,

but said the Amal men are "nibbling away at our positions little by little" with automatic weapons fire and grenades.

On another war front, Amal and PSP militias battled their rivals, the mostly Christian "Lebanese Forces", along the green line in central Beirut.

Police said the combatants fought with rocket-propelled grenades and anti-aircraft guns along the green line that splits the capital into mostly Christian and mainly Muslim sectors.

They said two people were killed and seven wounded in night-long fighting. Sporadic sniper and rocket-propelled grenade exchanges dragged on during the day.

In South Lebanon, radio stations said Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) men and Amal fighters shelled each other with artillery and mortars for two hours Sunday around the mountain town of Kfar Falous.

Kfar Falous is near Jezzine, a Christian stronghold in the south. Thousands of residents who fled an Amal-PSP offensive near Sidon late April are holed up in the town held by the SLA.

Newspapers reported that President Amin Gemayel was expected to meet Prime Minister Rashid Karame this week to arrange a cabinet meeting to explore ways to defuse the crisis in Beirut.

The cabinet, split along sectarian lines, has not met since April.

Amal leader Nabih Berri, who says the Amal assaults on the Beirut are aimed at preventing what he sees as "a resurgence of Palestinian military power" in Lebanon, said Saturday that Syria was mediating between Amal and the Palestinians on a security plan calling for Lebanese state authorities to collect all Amal and Palestinian weapons.

Mr. Berri called on Syria, which has some 30,000 troops in north and east Lebanon, to play a bigger role in the country's security and

(Continued on page 2)

Arafat gaining increased support within PLO, page 2

Oteiba: OPEC ready to cut output

ABU DHABI (R) — United Arab Emirates (UAE) Oil Minister Mana Saif Al Oteiba said Sunday that OPEC is prepared to cut its oil production ceiling of 16 million barrels a day (bpd) to defend prices.

Speaking to the Emirates news agency WAM before leaving for meetings in Saudi Arabia of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), Dr. Oteiba warned against any cut in the price of either heavy or light crudes.

"The problem is one of surplus in supply, and the cure requires sticking to the production quotas and prices decided by the last OPEC meeting," he said.

Saudi Oil Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani last week called for a cut in the price of heavy crude oil but said lighter grade prices should remain unchanged.

Dr. Oteiba, who heads OPEC's six-member market monitoring committee which meets on Tuesday in the Saudi summer capital of Taif, said he did not think the state of the oil market now required price cuts.

"OPEC is prepared to cut the production ceiling from 16 million barrels a day if the situation calls for it," he said.

"It is up to the oil producing countries inside and outside OPEC not to resort to easy measures to solve this crisis since they are full of dangers," Dr. Oteiba added, apparently referring to the price cut option.



RIFAI RETURNS: Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai (left) who accompanied His Majesty King Hussein to Washington, returned to Amman Sunday. Mr. Rifai was met upon arrival by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Abdul Wahab Al Majali (center) and Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat (right) (Petra photo)

Jordan ready for Mideast peace talks this year, Shultz tells Peres

TEL AVIV (AP) — Prime Minister Shimon Peres brought his cabinet a message from U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz on Sunday, saying Jordan was willing to hold Middle East peace talks this year, Israel Radio reported.

Mr. Shultz wrote Mr. Peres that during his visit to Washington last week, King Hussein said he would be willing to negotiate peace as part of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, the report said.

The negotiations would be based on United Nations Resolutions including 242 and 338, dating from 1967 and 1973 respectively, which call on Israel to give back the occupied Arab lands in return for Arab recognition of Israel's right to exist, the report said.

In his message to Mr. Peres, Mr. Shultz also said he and King Hussein agreed that a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation would meet soon with American officials as a preliminary step towards wider peace talks, the radio said.

The cabinet decided to meet again soon to debate the matter, the radio said.

Earlier Sunday, Likud chief and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir rejected a suggestion from Mr. Shultz that American officials meet with a joint Arab delegation, including members of the Palestine National Council (PNC), as a step to broaden peace negotiations.

Mr. Shamir told reporters before leaving for a 10-day trip to Europe that Mr. Shultz's comments on Friday were "contrary to

our stand and also to the stand of the United States all through the years regarding recognition and talks with the PLO (Palestine Liberation Organisation)."

Mr. Shamir said the PNC, which is the Palestinian parliament-in-exile, "is an integral part of the PLO. In addition, this organisation is the body and soul of the PLO."

"There is heavy pressure on the U.S. to bring about negotiations or some step towards peace talks but I think that this way of bringing in the PNC people is wrong," Mr. Shamir said.

The United States contends that some members of the PNC are not members of the PLO.

The radio quoted Mr. Shultz as telling Mr. Peres that Jordan and the PLO wanted to form a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation rather than an independent Palestinian state. The Feb. 11 agreement between Jordan and the PLO calls for such a state and the same idea was the basis of President Ronald Reagan's 1982 Middle East peace plan, which Israel rejected outright.

Mr. Shultz also said King Hussein told him that PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and the PLO Executive Committee had approved his proposed peace talks, the radio said. But it added that the Americans still wanted Mr. Arafat to publicly declare the PLO's recognition of Israel before negotiations could be launched.

The cabinet said in a statement after Sunday's session that Israel "will give its blessing to any progress made toward peace," but

reiterated its refusal to negotiate with the PLO or anyone "advocating the destruction of Israel."

It also repeated its opposition to calls for an international peace conference and said it "views gravely the sale of weapons to any country which is in a state of war" with Israel.

A government official, speaking on a guarantee of anonymity, read excerpts of Mr. Peres' report to the cabinet which contained these five points from Mr. Shultz's letter:

— No progress was made during King Hussein's visit to Washington last week on the composition of a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation for peace talks.

— The U.S. administration will hold "in the coming weeks" preliminary contacts with Jordanians and Palestinians, but will not "negotiate" with them.

— Mr. Shultz reported that "King Hussein expressed his commitment to a comprehensive and lasting peace and his desire to establish a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation, and that he is a partner to the intention to make progress toward negotiations this year."

— The United States remained opposed to an international conference.

— The United States will not talk to the PLO until it endorses U.N. Resolutions 242 and 338 and recognises Israel's right to exist.

Mr. Peres reported Mr. Shultz's assessment that King Hussein's U.S. visit was "a step forward in the peace process."

Britain to support French 'Eureka'

LONDON (Agencies) — Britain has informed France that it intends to support the European technology initiative to counter a possible brain drain to the U.S. "Star Wars," the Foreign Office said Sunday.

Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe sent a letter to French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas on May 31 supporting the so-called European Research Coordination Agency, called Eureka, said a Foreign Office spokesman, who by custom was not identified.

French President Francois Mitterrand launched Eureka after the United States invited its friends and allies to participate in research into the "Star Wars" plan

for space defences against nuclear missiles. He insisted that Europeans need to "preserve their capital of intelligence and know-how."

Most U.S. friends and allies have so far shunned Washington's invitation to join the programme, officially called the strategic defence initiative (SDI). The final count is not in yet, but only Britain and Israel have given a clear yes.

France, Norway, Denmark and Australia have said no.

Britain sees membership in Eureka as compatible with participation in "Star Wars" research, the Foreign Office spokesman said.

Mr. Howe's letter to Mr. Dumas suggested that the European Council, which meets in Milan on June 28-29, establish a small group of senior officials to consider how Eureka should work, the spokesman said.

European Community research and industry ministers meeting in Luxembourg this week are also expected to discuss the French plan.

Although Eureka is not formally on the agenda, diplomats said the ministers were sure to discuss an idea for a "European technology community" to pool resources for civilian research ahead of the community summit in Milan.

Mr. Papandreou called elections five months before his four-year term in office was due to expire, claiming he needed a new mandate to solve the Cyprus problem and to revise the constitution to curtail what he described as excessive presidential powers.

Mr. Papandreou has declined to

open a dialogue with NATO ally Turkey over differences in the Aegean until Turkish forces occupying 37 per cent of Cyprus are withdrawn. The Turks invaded Cyprus in the wake of a Greek mainland abortive coup in 1974, claiming the Turkish-Cypriot minority was endangered by the Greek-Cypriot majority.

Mr. Mitsotakis has pledged that he will talk with the Turks to smooth relations and find a solution to the Cyprus crisis.

But the pre-electoral campaign had been virtually devoid of foreign policy debate, with domestic issues at the forefront.

W. Bank lives under rising tension

HEBRON, Occupied West Bank (AP) — A Jewish settler carrying a submachine gun stands along the street at the entrance to the burial cave of Abraham, the Biblical patriarch revered by both Jews and Muslims.

Two other religious Jews, also carrying Uzis slung across their shoulders, march briskly through Hebron's crowded, narrow market.

The city's Palestinians are silent, watchful.

"There is much tension in my city," said Mustafa Natsheh, deposed mayor of one of the world's oldest continuously inhabited cities where 40,000 Palestinians now live.

Tension came with the prisoner exchange May 30, in which Israel released 1,150 Palestinian prisoners for three Israelis captured by Palestinian commandos in Lebanon.

Friction has grown with the almost nightly visits of settlers from nearby Kiryat Arba, settlers who post "wanted" signs and surround the houses of some of the released prisoners, occasionally firing shots into the air.

Of the 605 freed Palestinians who chose to return to Israel and the occupied territories, about 80 came to Hebron, according to Mr. Natsheh, deposed by the Israelis in 1983.

Their return to this city about 35 kilometres south of Jerusalem angered the settlers, a small but well-armed minority of 45,000 in the West Bank, now home of 800,000 Palestinians.

Fearing that freed Palestinians may stage anti-Israeli strikes again, the settlers have formed groups aimed at forcing the freed prisoners to leave their homeland.

Mr. Natsheh said Hebron residents "were confronted by the settlers from the first hour of the release. They have broken car windshields, fired shots, thrown stones."

A tailor who is an uncle of a released prisoner said settlers have come to his nephew's home almost nightly. "I wish we had guns," the tailor said quietly as he worked his sewing machine. He declined to be named.

"We are very happy our comrades were released," said Yussef, a 22-year-old who declined to be identified further. "But things are hard for us now. Every day when I leave the house, my mother kisses my cheek. She says she is not sure what will happen to me."

"And the most dangerous thing is that the army doesn't do anything to stop the settlers," said Mr. Natsheh in an interview. "If the settlers continue their harassment, the more radical among us may be driven to do something violent."

The Israeli army says it has stepped up its presence in the West Bank since the prisoner release, and a visitor to Hebron noticed an increased military presence in the streets.

Israeli soldiers Saturday night blocked off all roads leading to Nablus, the largest city in the West Bank, to prevent planned early morning harassment of Palestinians by Israeli settlers.

Israelis protest at call to free Jewish terror suspects, page 2

Greeks vote in crucial parliamentary election

ATHENS (AP) — Greeks flocked to the polls Sunday in crucial national elections to decide whether to retain the ruling Socialists who want a welfare state or opt for the conservatives pledging to free the economy and improve ties with the West.

The contest between Premier Andreas Papandreu's Pan-Hellenic Socialist Movement (PASOK) and Constantine Mitsotakis' conservative New Democracy Party will be close, say analysts who believe "two to three percentage points" separate the two parties.

The Moscow-line Greek Communist Party (KKE), which had

13 seats in the outgoing 300-member legislature, could deprive both main contenders of a majority and play the power broker.

However, analysts said the elections could be decided by about six per cent of the Greek voters who will make up their minds as they enter the polls. The undecided are generally regarded as centrist.

In a bid to share the undecided vote, Mr. Papandreu and Mitsotakis placed centrist candidates on their tickets.

Mr. Papandreu, a 66-year-old former American economics professor, has pledged to continue social reforms that so far have

proved ineffective on the economy. Greece had 16 per cent inflation last year and over 10 per cent of its 3.5 million-member workforce was unemployed.

Mr. Mitsotakis, 67, seeks to free the economy from government restraints and restore strained relations with Greece's Western allies.

Mr. Papandreu called elections five months before his four-year term in office was due to expire, claiming he needed a new mandate to solve the Cyprus problem and to revise the constitution to curtail what he described as excessive presidential powers.

Mr. Papandreu has declined to

Saudi prince proposes combined anti-terror action

KUWAIT (AP) — Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Abdullah on Sunday was quoted as proposing combined anti-terror action by the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

He told the newspaper Al-Qabas that "coordinated efforts by the Gulf countries has become a pressing necessity." The Prince was alluding to the recent attempt on the life of the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, by a suicidal car driver.

The driver, who was blown to bits when he crashed his bomb-laden car into the motorcade of Sheikh Jaber on May 25, was identified as Iraqi Shi'ite Muslim Mehdi Ramadan Shah.

Local newspapers said that Shah was a member of the underground Al Daawa Party, a pro-Iranian group that is believed to be linked to the Islamic Jihad organisation.

Jihad have claimed responsibility for the attempt on Sheikh Jaber's life, as they did for the spate of bomb blasts against the U.S. and French embassies in 1983, when four strategic economic targets also were blasted.

The attack on the U.S. embassy two years ago was identical to the suicidal crash into Sheikh Jaber's motorcade. The embassy was blasted by an Iraqi Shi'ite Muslim terrorist, who also was blown to pieces.

Seventeen persons were convicted for their role in the 1983 blasts. Three of the 17 have been awaiting execution. Islamic Jihad operatives have since been trying through intimidation and terrorist attacks to pressure Kuwait to release the 17 convicts.

Last December four Jihad Islamic terrorists hijacked a Kuwait Airways jetliner to Iran's Mehrabad Airport, where they killed two American passengers after Kuwait refused their demand to release the 17 terrorists.

Prince Abdullah told Al-Qabas that "we all reject acts of terrorism and perfidy which are aimed at undermining stability and security of the Gulf region."

"We will have to act collectively in the face of these attempt by

those who are without religion or manners," said the Prince, who also is commander of the Saudi Para-Military National Guard.

Saudi Arabia is the leading power in the GCC, a regional economic integration and combined defence pact that also includes Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Qatar and Oman. These countries have been trying to forge a combined internal security pact that call for swapping information, mutual extradition of political criminals and hot pursuit of suspects 25 miles into the territory of any GCC country by security forces of any other member country.

Kuwait has rejected this proposed pact as contrary to its own constitution. But informed sources here said that after the attempt on Sheikh Jaber's life Kuwait might be willing to sign that pact.

The government meanwhile decided to discontinue issuing work permits to expatriate workers, until a security study of conditions of the country's alien labour force was completed.

Officials said Kuwait was to drastically cut back the size of foreign workers, mainly by deporting and replacing certain aliens whose religious and political allegiances are questionable.

Meanwhile, an influential newspaper publisher-editor urged the government to cease paying aid to unidentified Arab powers because, he contended, "this money is being used to train anti-Kuwait saboteurs."

Ahmad Jarallah of the Al-Sayassa newspaper said editorially that the "so-called national commitment money amounts to nothing more than extortion, protection money we pay to avoid evil."

Mr. Jarallah has been convalescing, after the attempt on his life by fundamentalist Muslim elements on April 24.

"Most of that (Kuwaiti aid) money goes to training of elements of terrorism and sabotage who conspire against Kuwait," said Mr. Jarallah. "That money would be enough to give protection against terrorism if spent on security apparatuses here."

The National Commitment Aid money was decreed by the Arab summit conference of 1967, when Kuwait's share was put at \$500 million annually. This money goes to Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Mr. Jarallah did not spell out which of these aid recipients he was accusing of instigating anti-Kuwait terrorism.

He added that securitymen have been "combing the country in search of accomplices ... but that should have been done right after the 1983 bomb blasts."

In Abu Dhabi, the newspaper Al Itihad said that Kuwaiti security have arrested the wife of the suicidal driver who lost his life in the attempt on the life of Sheikh Jaber.

Citing unidentified Kuwait sources the paper said the arrest was made after some witness had told authorities that he had sighted a woman taking pictures of Sheikh Jaber's motorcade several times.

The paper did not disclose the name of the arrested woman, and Kuwait officials here refused to comment on that report.

Editorialists here have accused Iran of instigating the assassination attempt. But Iranian President Ali Khamenei in a message to Sheikh Jaber disclaimed any involvement in the crime and said that his government "deplores terrorism."

The Iranian undersecretary for foreign affairs, Ali Shams Ardakani, was meanwhile in Kuwait as part of a Gulf tour to discuss the latest developments in the Iran-Iraq war.

Mr. Ardakani told Al-Qabas that "Iran rejects terrorism."

Responding to a question he said that Iran was withholding the Kuwait Airways jetliner which was hijacked to Tehran last December "until Iraq returns to Iran the civilian aircraft" whose pilot defected with it to Baghdad recently.

Arafat gaining more support within PLO leaderships

By Charles Dick Reuter

TUNIS — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat appears to have muted one-fierce criticism among his closest aides for his accord with Jordan and a number of other factors are strengthening his hand. Western diplomats said Sunday.

Overturns from one-time for Libya, while treated with scepticism by moderates in the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), have been welcomed by the PLO leadership.

One effect of recent Libyan expressions of support for Mr. Arafat could be to undermine the position of Syria, the sworn enemy of Mr. Arafat's policies, the diplomats said.

And while a two-week battle over Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut has caused more than 400 deaths, one spin-off of the fighting has been to keep Mr. Arafat's profile high and help his cause, they added.

On the diplomatic front, Mr. Arafat's agreement with Jordan, which calls for Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza and the creation of a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation following an international Middle East peace conference, remains at centre stage.

Within days of its signing on Feb. 11, the accord was bitterly criticised by Mr. Arafat's aides, including Farouk Kaddoumi, head of the political department and the PLO's "foreign minister", and Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad), a co-founder of Mr. Arafat's Fateh commando group.

But the agreement has now been endorsed by the roughly 60-strong PLO Central Council at a meeting last week.

Although none of the anti-Arafat, Damascus-based PLO

groups were present at the meeting, approval was significant as the council is the PLO's highest body after the Palestine National Council (parliament-in-exile).

The case for the accord was put by King Hussein during a visit to Washington last week for talks with President Reagan. Mr. Arafat has confined himself to saying he is satisfied with the results of the trip.

Nevertheless, there were signs of a shift in Washington's position on an international conference grouping the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council — the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, France and China — and the par-

ties in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Whereas Washington previously rejected such a conference outright, it is now indicating it would be acceptable if the Soviet Union showed a "constructive" attitude.

A surprise Libyan expression of support for Mr. Arafat two days ago and an invitation to Palestinian groups to move their bases to Tripoli seemed to indicate an about-turn in Libyan alliances and the PLO officially welcomed it.

The statement, issued by the official Libyan News Agency (JANA), said Arafat was not to blame for the battle of the Beirut camps, which has pitched Shi'ite Amal militia against Palestinian fighters.

But a close adviser to Mr. Arafat and prominent PLO moderate, Khaled Al Hassan, is sceptical of long-term prospects for co-operation with Libya.

He also says he does not believe the fact that pro and anti-Arafat

fighters battled shoulder-to-shoulder in the Beirut camps signalled renewed cooperation between Damascus-based rebels and the mainstream PLO in the long-term.

One Western diplomat in Tunis said a factor in Libya's siding with Mr. Arafat against Amal could be friction between Shi'ites and Tripoli over the disappearance of a Shi'ite leader in Libya nearly seven years ago.

Imam Musa Sadr, spiritual and political leader of the Lebanese Shi'ites, has not been seen since he went on an official visit to Libya in August, 1978.

Following King Hussein's Washington trip, Mr. Hassan is guarded about future prospects. "We cannot guarantee success. We must just struggle on," he says.

The U.S. stance has been to refuse to deal directly with the PLO as long as it does not recognise Israel.

Two key United Nations Security Council resolutions passed at the time of the last two Middle East wars in 1967 and 1973 — Resolutions 242 and 338 — are crucial to U.S. Middle East policy.

Acceptance of 242 by the PLO would necessarily imply recognition of Israel and King Hussein said during his U.S. visit that the PLO was prepared to take part in an international peace conference on the basis of U.N. resolutions including 242.

PLO officials say 242, which treats the Palestinians only as a refugee problem, can be accepted only if taken in a "basket" of resolutions including ones such as General Assembly Resolution 3236, passed in 1974, which affirms the right of the Palestinian people to national independence and sovereignty.

Libya, which was among one of the hardest Arafat critics, Friday defended the PLO leader, in a commentary issued by the official JANA news agency, against accusations that he was responsible for a battle over Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut.

In a statement to the Palestinian news agency Wafa, Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad) strongly criticised "Arab states for what he called their failure to act to protect the Palestinian camps."

Amal men storm Al Bass camp

(Continued from page 1)

access to Sabra or Shatila. In Tunis, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Saturday welcomed a Libyan statement supporting PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat in the Beirut fighting.

PLO spokesman Ahmad Abdul Rahman said: "The PLO leadership welcomes the attitude adopted by Libya regarding the war of extermination waged for the 13th consecutive day by the Shi'ites against Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut."

Libya, which was among one of the hardest Arafat critics, Friday defended the PLO leader, in a commentary issued by the official JANA news agency, against accusations that he was responsible for a battle over Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut.

In a statement to the Palestinian news agency Wafa, Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad) strongly criticised "Arab states for what he called their failure to act to protect the Palestinian camps."

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Sudan sets up committee to draft election law

CAIRO (R) — Sudanese Prime Minister Ali Gazuoli Daffa Allah has said he had set up a committee to draft a law to govern general elections due before his government's interim mandate ends in April next year, Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported from Khartoum.

Mr. Daffa Allah's government was appointed on April 22, two

weeks after President Jaafar Numeiri was overthrown in a military coup led by General Abdul Rahman Swaredah.

Numeiri banned political parties when he came to power in military coup in 1969 but many of them continued to exist in exile or underground throughout his 16 years of rule.

ADC sends appeal for ceasefire in Lebanon

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The national chairman of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) has sent an appeal to all the warring factions in Lebanon to initiate a cease-fire.

Former U.S. Senator James Abourezk has called on all sides in the fighting to bring it to an end and to renew their efforts to restore peace and harmony in Lebanon.

"The conflict between Arab brothers is totally senseless," Mr. Abourezk said, "and can do nothing but bring joy to the hearts of the Zionists."

"The people in Lebanon, both Lebanese and Palestinian, have suffered enough under the invasion and occupation by the Israelis and do not need to suffer further at the hands of their own people."

Mr. Abourezk said he speaks for the entire American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, which is the largest Arab-American organisation in the United States.

"I am sure," Mr. Abourezk said, "that all Arab-Americans feel the same way about this crucial matter."

Meanwhile, the spokesman for an Arab-American organisation in Washington said that Americans of Arab descent are committed to ending the fighting in Lebanon and have started a new campaign to raise funds for victims of the war.

"Save Lebanon", a three-year

old organisation, is raising funds for medical aid to war wounded regardless of religion or political orientation. They are also providing food and shelter for refugees including 700 refugee families camped near the former American embassy in West Beirut.

James Zogby, director of "Save Lebanon" told reporters on May 29 that this week the organisation raised about \$14,000. Their goal is to reach a total of \$30,000 "Then we will continue from there."

According to Mr. Zogby, Americans of Arab descent are also committed to using their political influence to stop the fighting in Lebanon.

"We can speak to the people of different groups," Mr. Zogby said. "We also have many friends, relatives and close associates in or near the camps. If we can provide a bridge between concerns that exist in the Arab World and... concerns of the American people, we hope that in this instance individuals will listen and action will be taken. The option is to do nothing which we find unacceptable."

"Lebanon and its people also need U.S. diplomacy and compassion," said Mr. Zogby. "The situation in the country has deteriorated and reached a level of enormous and continuing tragedy."

He said the latest reports he had received from Lebanon listed more than 400 dead and 1,800 wounded. Many of the wounded have died because of a lack of medical care, he said.

Special group to discuss Arab food security

KUWAIT (Petra) — A special group on Arab food security starts meetings in Kuwait Wednesday.

The group is expected to discuss over two days a number of reports prepared by the Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development on the potential of Arab food security projects.

The group is also expected to review the programme of the Arab Development Organisation entrusted to execute a number of strategic Arab food projects which was decided during the 6th Arab Development Conference held last year.

The programme of the organisation includes, among others, an agro-industrial complex for the production of vegetable oil in Sudan, a project for developing fishing and fish processing in Mauritania, a similar project in South Yemen and a project for fodder production to be set in another Arab country.

The meeting is attended by Arab League representatives as well as representatives of Arab organisations, corporations, institutions and specialised companies having to do with Arab food security.

Shuttle flight to improve U.S.-Islamic ties - Sultan

WASHINGTON — The first Arab scheduled to go into space has said that his flight next month aboard the space shuttle Challenger is bound to improve diplomatic relations between the United States and the Islamic World.

"You will have 800 millions Muslims and 155 million Arabs glued to their television sets watching an American spaceship carry an Arab into space," Saudi Arabian Prince Sultan Salman

Abdul Aziz Al Saud said at a news conference at Houston's Johnson's Space Centre. "I feel very proud to represent 22 nations of the world and cannot imagine that it will not help Arab-American relations."

The 28-year-old nephew of Saudi Arabia's King Fahd noted that he will be in space during Islam's holiest time, the period of June that takes in Ramadan and the festive holiday of Eid Al Fitr on June 18. — Washington Post

Israelis protest at call to free Jewish terrorists

TEL AVIV (R) — Several thousand Israelis have protested outside the home of Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir against his call for the release of 27 Jews convicted of anti-Arab attacks or awaiting trial.

Mr. Shamir and other right-wing politicians say the May 20 exchange of 1,150 Arab commandos for three Israeli soldiers captured in Lebanon should be followed by pardons for convicted members of the so-called "Jewish underground".

Under tight police security,

supporters of the left-wing "Peace Now" Movement marched through Jerusalem to Mr. Shamir's residence and hoisted signs reading, "no pardon for terror" and "no package deal".

All of the Jewish prisoners are religious settlers from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. Ten have already been convicted.

They are charged, among other offences, with car bombings that maimed two Palestinian mayors and plotting to destroy a Muslim shrine in Jerusalem.

Farrakhan gets \$5m loan from Libya

CHICAGO (AP) — Louis Farrakhan, leader of the Nation of Islam, returned from a tour of North Africa and the Mideast and said he has received a \$5 million interest-free loan from Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi.

Farrakhan said the money would be used to stimulate black-owned businesses through his newly formed group, power, or people organised working together for economic rebirth.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111	20:00 Evening Show 21:00 News Summary 21:45 Evening Show Cont. 22:00 Evening Show Cont. 22:30 News Summary 22:45 Evening Show Cont. 23:00 Close down
MAIN CHANNEL	15:00 Koran 15:30 Cartoons 15:45 Religious Programme 16:00 Children's Programme 16:15 Contests Programme 16:30 Cooking Programme 16:40 Religious Programme 17:15 Oddities 17:30 Arabic Series 18:30 Religious Programme 19:35 Prayers 20:00 News in Arabic 20:40 Programme Review 21:00 Contests 21:15 Tomorrow's Programme 21:45 Poetry 22:00 News in Arabic 23:10 Arabic Film 01:00 Religious Programme
FOREIGN CHANNEL	18:00 French Programme: Anagram 18:20 Bonjour bon appetit 18:40 News in French 19:00 Sport Magazine 19:30 News in Hebrew 20:00 News in Arabic 20:30 Canadian Film 21:00 Marielouise — Eps. 1 22:00 News in English 23:00 Murder She Wrote
RADIO JORDAN 855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM & partly on 9560 KHz. SW Tel: 77411-19	07:00 Light Music 07:30 Newsweek 07:45 Morning Show 10:00 News Summary 10:05 Pop Session 12:00 News Summary 12:05 Pop Session Cont. 13:00 News Summary 13:05 Pop Session Cont. 14:00 News Bulletin 14:10 Instruments 14:15 Over a Cup of Tea 15:00 Concert Hour 16:00 News Summary 16:05 Instruments 16:50 The 15th Century A.H. 17:00 Pop Session 17:30 News Summary 18:00 Sports Round-up 18:15 Special Feature 19:00 Newsweek 19:30 Date with a Star

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* An exhibition on famous German composers (Heinrich Schütz, Johann Bach, George Handel) at the Goethe Institute.

VIDEO

* Arts plastiques at 4:00 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.

TODAY'S EVENTS

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre ... tel. 661026/7
American Centre ... 644371
American Centre Library ... 641520
British Council ... 636147/8
French Cultural Centre ... 637009
Goethe Institute ... 641992
Soviet Cultural Centre ... 642033
Spanish Cultural Centre ... 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre ... 639777
Fayaz Arts Centre ... 665195
Hussein Youth City ... 607181/6
Y.W.C.A. ... 664251
Amman Municipal Library ... 637111
University of Jordan Library ... 843555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651700.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qafra (Cinder Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Monarch, Jabal Lawehdeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.
Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 63499.

664240.
Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 637169.

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn. 1.30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7.30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2.00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club. Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261, 815410.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Lawehdeh, 637440.
De 1 Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, 661757.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abadi, 623541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, 623583.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 772661.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 771751.
Amman International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Smeisani, 816534, 817534.
Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jabal Amman, 6th Circle. (Rev. N. Smir), Tel: 811295.

PRAYER TIMES

03:49	-----	Fajr
05:28	-----	(Sunrise) Dohar
12:34	-----	Dohar
16:15	-----	Asr
19:41	-----	Maghrib
21:19	-----	Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	MARITIME TRAFFIC	WEATHER	DEPARTURES	MONEY EXCHANGE
This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (08) 5320085, where it should always be verified.	Regular line ships docking at Aqaba port: — Onis — Konkard Doris — Salfand — Barbarosa — Eagle 2 — Hania 2 Amin Kavar and Sons Company, Tel: 622324-9 at your service.	Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology. Temperature will be normal. Light and variable winds will become northerly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm sea. Low/high temperature in deg. C. Amman 31, Aqaba 39. Humidity readings: Amman 17 per cent, Aqaba 22 per cent.	06:50 Frankfurt (Luf) 07:15 Beirut (RJ, MEA) 07:50 Damascus, Athens (OA) 08:00 Aqaba (RJ) 11:45 Bucharest (RJ) 12:05 Amsterdam, New York (RJ) 12:15 Aqaba (RJ) 12:30 Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ) 13:15 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ) 13:30 Ankara, Istanbul (TK) 14:00 Malaga (RJ) 14:40 Cairo (MS) 15:30 Kuwait (RJ) 17:40 Medina, Jeddah (SV) 18:30 Qatari riyal ... 109/110 20:30 Damascus, Larnaca (RJ) 20:30 Dohra (RJ) 20:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ) 21:00 Baghdad (RJ) 21:05 Baghdad (RJ) 21:15 Jeddah (RJ) 21:50 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)	Sunday rates in ffs Local set/dollar rates in ffs Belgian franc ... 65/ 65.5 Dutch guilder ... 16.7/ 17.6 Egyptian pound ... 287.6/ 291.3 French franc ... 43.1/ 43.4 Iraqi dinar ... 387.3/ 392.3 Japanese yen (for 100) ... 159.8/ 161.1 Kuwaiti dinar ... 1319/ 1326.6 Lebanese lira ... 25/ 26 Omani riyal ... 1150/ 1160 Qatari riyal ... 109/ 110 Saudi riyal ... 110/4/ 11.2 Swedish crown ... 45.3/ 45.7 Swiss franc ... 156.2/ 157.4 Syrian lira ... 34/ 36.8 UAE dirham ... 108.3/ 109.3 U.K. sterling pound ... 57/ 52.1 U.S. dollar ... 400.5/ 403 W. German mark ... 131.5/ 132.6

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Amman governorate	891228
Amman civil defence	198, 199
Civil Defence Unit	271293, 273131
Civil Defence Qusweishah	770733
Ambulance	193, 775111
Amman downtown fire brigade	198
First aid	630341
Blood bank	778303
Civil Defence rescue	661111
Fire headquarters	622090-3
Police rescue	192, 621111, 637777
Police headquarters	639141
Traffic police	896390/7
Electric Power Co.	626381/4, 624881
Municipal water complaints	771258
Queen Alia Int. Airport	(08) 5330260

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:	
Dr. Sa'ad Haddadine	657255
Dr. Khalid Abu Dhamrah	770468
Nairoukh pharmacy	623672
Mishri pharmacy	770919
First pharmacy	601912
Al Salam pharmacy	636194
Al Azza pharmacy	777712
Al Mijma'a pharmacy	672367
TAXIS:	
Khalid taxi	623715
Tamer taxi	666417
Tahira taxi	644600
Youth City taxi	636273
Jerusalem taxi	639655

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre	81381/32
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn.	644281/6
Al-Khalid Maternity, J. Amman	644162
Jabal Amman Maternity	642362
Malhas, J. Amman	636140
Palestine, Shmeisani	664171/4
Shmeisani Hospital	669131
University Hospital	845845/6
Al-Musader Hospital	62727/9
The Islamic, Abdali	666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali	664164/6
Italian, Al-Muhajirin	777101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh	775112/6
Army, Marja	891611/15

IRBID:	
Dr. Na'e'l Hamed	(—)
Al Hayaa pharmacy	248466

ZARQA:	
Dr. Fayez Abdul Aziz	985299
Mataleja pharmacy	(—)

GENERAL

Jordan Television	773111/19
Radio Jordan	774111/19
Ministry of Tourism	642311
Hotel complaints	666412
Price complaints	661176
Telephone Information	12
Jordan and Middle East calls	10
Overseas calls	10
Repair service	11

MARKET PRICES

<i>Upper/lower price in ffs per kg.</i>	
Apple (local)	260/ 280
Apple (American)	360/ 320
Apricots	500/ 400
Bananas	280/ 240
Bananas (Mekammar)	240/ 210
Beans	180/ 150
Broad beans	80/ 60
Cabbage	100/ 70
Carrot (without leaves)	100/ 70
Cauliflower	150/ 120
Cucumber (large)	50/ 70
Cucumber (small)	150/ 120
Eggplant (large)	170/ 130
Eggplant (small)	120/ 80
Garlic (with leaves)	360/ 320
Lemon	200/ 160
Mallow	110/ 80
Marrow (large)	90/ 70
Marrow (small)	160/ 120
Onion (dry)	90/ 60
Parsley	100/ 100
Pears	540/ 480
Pears (American)	540/ 480
Peas	350/ 300
Pepper (sweet)	150/ 120
Pepper (hot)	170/ 140
Potatoes	150/ 120
Radishes	70/ 50
Sweet Melon	250/ 200
Tomatoes	110/ 80
Vine leaves	280/ 240

Regent opens 'Ramadan souq'

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan the Regent has opened a Ramadan souq or open shopping centre which sells products at reduced prices throughout the month of Ramadan.

The shopping centre was set up by the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs on a 10,000 square metre area in Jabal Hussein. More than 100 stores are selling a wide variety of foodstuffs, clothing, electric appliances, furniture, jewellery, books and magazines and the proceeds will benefit needy families.

After the inauguration ceremony, Prince Hassan made a tour of the shopping centre and paid tribute to the ministry for such a charitable endeavour. A spokesman for the Ministry

of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs said several Islamic cultural events will be organised at the centre and also said that a mosque has been set up along with a wing assigned for religious teaching during the holy month. Religious books will be sold at nominal prices and the ministry will distribute booklets and religious publications to visitors, the spokesman said. Visiting children can enjoy tales of a story teller at one of the tents every night of the month, he said.

The opening ceremony was attended by a number of cabinet members, senior officials, Speaker of the Palestine National Council Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Sa'eh as well as Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Azziz Al Khayyat.

CAEU marks 21st anniversary

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Amman-based Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) Sunday issued a statement outlining its establishment, development and programmes over the past 20 years. The statement, marking the CAEU's 21st anniversary, said that the CAEU was established with the aim of bringing about total economic unity among Arab League member states.

To achieve this, the statement said, the CAEU has been working towards ensuring the free passage of Arab people and the flow of capital and the exchange of goods among Arab countries. The council has also been advocating the freedom of work and employment of all Arab nationals in any Arab country and endeavouring to bring about free transport and transit between Arab countries as well as free movement and settlement in any Arab country, according to the statement.

Despite the difficult circumstances impeding CAEU's efforts over the past two decades, the council has made many achievements designed to help Arab countries counter adverse economic conditions, the statement said.

It said the CAEU has been able to draw up agreements between Arab countries which have contributed towards attaining these goals and has set up various pan-Arab companies which are exercising an active role in the Arab economy.

Among the Arab companies established by the CAEU are the Arab Company for Mining, the Arab Company for the Development of Animal Wealth, the Arab Pharmaceutical Company and Medical Supplies and the Arab Company for Industrial Investment.



SOCIETY RECEIVES JD 3,800: Mrs. David Latta, wife of the British Council director, Sunday presents a cheque for JD 3,800 to Dr. Abdullah Al Khatib, the chairman of the General Union of Voluntary Societies and president of the Psychological Health Society. The amount, which is the proceeds of a charitable party held by Mrs. Latta, will be used to support health centres run by the society and which cater for mentally handicapped children (Petra photo)

WAJ studying north-south pipeline project to ensure water supplies, Keilani says

AMMAN (Petra) — The Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) is currently studying the possibility of constructing a national water pipeline from Aqaba in the south to Mulkhabah in the north, according to WAJ President Mohammad Saleh Keilani.

The pipeline would be connected to all underground water resources and outlets would lead to all population settlements, Mr. Keilani told the Jordanian News Agency, Petra.

He also added that the authority is studying the possibility of distilling Red Sea water and using it as a water source for the pipeline.

Mr. Keilani said that the WAJ has formulated a comprehensive water policy to preserve, develop and protect water resources in the country.

He said that by the end of the year, all settlements of 500 people or more will receive continuous piped water.

He added that the WAJ has managed to ensure a continuous supply of water to Amman and to all major cities and towns in the country.

Sewerage, wastewater projects
Discussing sewerage disposal and wastewater treatment, Mr. Keilani said that the authority has a three-phase plan set in motion. The first phase, which is currently underway, will cater for the cities

and towns of Greater Amman, Irbid, Zarqa, Karak, Taffila, Ma'an, Aqaba and all their suburbs.

The second phase, he said, will cater for towns and villages of 2,500 people or more, while the third phase will serve the remaining population settlements. At the end of the third phase, all people in Jordan will be covered, he explained.

He said that the WAJ is determined to exploit to the maximum extent all underground resources which are replenished annually in addition to a fraction of deeper underground water reserves.

Mr. Keilani went on to say that the authority will continue to dig wells in many parts of the country and on the borders to determine the exact quantity of underground water, its quality and its direction of flow in order for the authority to draw up long-term plans.

He added that the study will also explore the water needs of irrigation and agriculture.

Mr. Keilani said that the WAJ is determined, after the completion of current feasibility studies, to build dams on major valleys leading to the Jordan Valley and on swaths in the desert areas.

Mr. Keilani said that the authority has started a water database into which all available information on water is being fed for purposes of study, research and planning.

HEC issues guidebook to community colleges

AMMAN (J.T.) — A guidebook issued by the Higher Education Council (HEC) reveals that there are 70 community colleges in Jordan, accommodating some 26,000 students at various levels and in different specialisations.

The guidebook, which also gives details on the number of annual graduates from each college, says that there are 51 community colleges in the East Bank with the remainder in the West Bank of Jordan. Of these, 12 colleges are run by the Ministry of Education with four in Amman, four in Irbid and one in Salt, Zarqa, Karak and Shobak. Other ministries operate 16 colleges distributed in various governorates of Jordan.

The registered number of male and female students in these colleges, in the 1984/85 academic year amounted to 26,000, 48.4 per cent of whom are female. Subjects taught at the colleges include: commerce, engineering, hotel management, agriculture, commercial aviation, Arabic, English, Islamic religion, mathematics, music, computer sciences, accountancy, and book-keeping, insurance, marketing, secretarial skills, paramedics and air traffic control.

Ministry official leaves for Tunis meetings on marketing W.Bank agricultural produce

Special committee to discuss means of supporting farmers in occupied territories

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A Jordanian envoy Sunday left for Tunis to take part in a special committee meeting which will discuss means of expanding regional markets for agricultural products from the Israeli occupied Arab territories.

President of the Agriculture Department at the Ministry of Agriculture Khaled Al A'out told the Jordan Times before his departure that he is expected to suggest three options to the meetings aimed to ease the financial burdens on Arab farmers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Mr. A'out did not elaborate on the nature of Jordan's suggestions to the meeting but pointed out that one of the three suggestions is to discuss the feasibility of setting up a special department aimed at marketing agricultural products from the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Mr. A'out did not disclose

procedures for carrying out such a project neither did he speak about the other two draft options. Speaking about the current situation of Arab farmers in the occupied territories, Mr. A'out said it is vital to explore regional and pan-Arab market outlets in order to absorb the overflow of agricultural products from the West Bank and Gaza Strip, especially in certain seasons.

Finding new markets would support the steadfastness of Arab residents and would offer them reasons to remain in their homeland and to cultivate their land, he said, adding that Jordan has

always been committed to receive the surplus produce from the occupied territories and that Jordan is keen to find other markets to ensure fair prices for farmers.

Palestinian farmers usually face inevitable losses due to the equation of supply and demand, Mr. A'out said. He pointed out that in certain seasons, such as the current one, demands for agricultural produce become less and that this is due to over-supply, leading to sharp reduction in prices.

At the meeting, Mr. A'out said that Jordan would seek to tackle problems facing Arab residents and farmers in the occupied territories.

He also emphasised the necessity that Arab countries should play a more active role to prevent the deterioration of the agricultural sector in the West Bank by opening their doors and markets to produce from the occupied territories.

Kana'an returns from UNRWA talks in Vienna; Australia pledges \$400,000 to deficit-hit agency

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Advisory Commission of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) has issued a statement in Vienna expressing concern over the prospect of having to reduce its services to Palestinian refugees, Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Taher Kana'an said here Sunday.

He said that the statement was a follow up to a report by the UNRWA commissioner general in which he said that the agency is now operating at minimum level. The report also urged all countries to extend donations in order that humanitarian services could be maintained.

The minister was speaking upon returning from Vienna where he attended the Advisory Commission's meetings on May 30. He said the commission voiced appreciation for UNRWA's efforts to

raise additional funds to cover the deficit in this year's budget and shared the commissioner general's concern about the diminishing finances of the agency.

Mr. Kana'an said that the Advisory Commission's members realise the vital role which UNRWA plays towards providing health and educational services to more than two million Palestinian refugees and they support calls to U.N. member nations to give more financial aid to UNRWA.

The commission made it clear in its statement that any failure to provide UNRWA with essential funds for its operations would result in forcing the agency to curtail its already very limited relief programmes which in turn could lead to a very difficult situation and disturbing consequences, the minister said.

He said that the commission voiced unanimous backing for the

efforts of the commissioner general and urged him to pursue his endeavours to raise funds to enable UNRWA to avoid taking drastic measures.

Meanwhile the Australian Embassy in Amman issued a release stating that Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs Bill Hayden has announced that, in response to an international appeal, Australia would contribute \$400,000 to UNRWA for the continuation of its assistance programmes to the two million Palestinian refugees registered with the agency. He said that this grant would bring Australia's total contributions to UNRWA this financial year to \$1.8 million.

Mr. Hayden said that UNRWA was currently facing a serious shortfall in its 1985 budget and, unless this was met, the agency would have to curtail its assistance to Palestinian refugees.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Regent cables Italian president

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan the Regent Sunday sent a cable of good wishes to Italian President Sandro Pertini on the occasion of Italy's national day. The Crown Prince wished Mr. Pertini health and happiness and the Italian people progress and prosperity.

Charity show held for handicapped

AMMAN (J.T.) — Under the Patronage of Her Highness Princess Majda Ra'd the Rainbow Cinema Saturday presented the film 'The Killing Fields', as a special charity performance benefiting the Al Hussein Society for the Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped.

Testing the potential of wastewater for agriculture

By Monika Warich
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Ways to reduce the spending of scarce and expensive groundwater are always sought, particularly in the arid areas of the world. For instance, water to be used in certain industries does not necessarily have to have drinking water quality, nor does the water used for some domestic purposes.

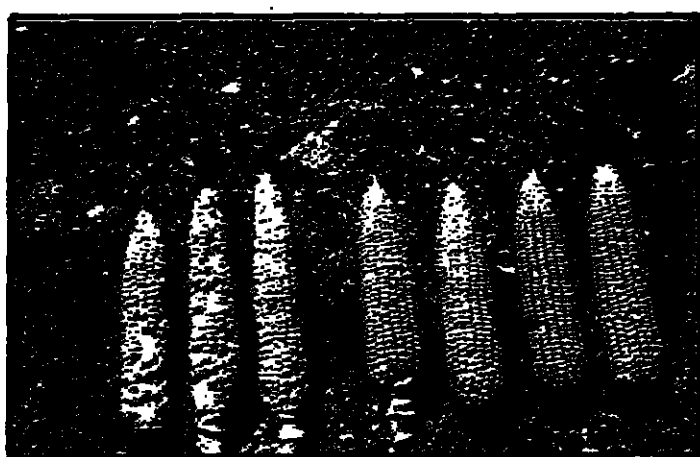
A project to investigate the feasibility of wastewater reuse by irrigation of crops with treated waste water in order to save fresh water is presently carried out by the Water Research and Study Centre (WRSC) of the University of Jordan in cooperation with the Water Authority of Jordan and the Civil Aviation Authority, which provided the land next to the sewerage treatment plant of the Queen Alia International Airport (QAIA) and the King Hussein Medical Centre (KHMC).

In 1984, the first tests were carried out on the QAIA site on three dunums of land on which squash, tomatoes, and soybeans and some maize were cultivated and irrigated with the effluent of the sewage plant by a drip irrigation system. For comparison, the same crops were grown and irrigated with water of drinking water quality on separate fields on the same site. In the growing season of 1985, which has already begun, the project area at the QAIA was extended to 12 dunums and the irrigation system was diversified. Now drip, sprinkler and furrow irrigation systems are employed. The crops tested, however, have stayed the same.

All crops harvested on both the QAIA and the KHMC project sites are destroyed after harvesting, as they must not be used for animal or human consumption under the present legislation in Jordan.

Sewerage treatment

The sewerage treatment plants of the QAIA and the KHMC are both of the same type with two treatment stages, a mechanical or primary one and a biological or secondary one, during which the waste water is treated by extended aeration. The QAIA treatment plant has a capacity of 2,000 cubic metres per day, but is presently working at only about half that



Maize irrigated with drinking water (left) and irrigated with treated wastewater (right)

rate. It is fed by the domestic wastewater of the airport which mainly originates from hotels and the flushing of airplanes. The plant is run by a private contractor for the Water Authority of Jordan and has been functional since 1983.

The sewerage treatment plant of the KHMC has a capacity of 1,500 cubic metres per day, but the waste water it has to deal with is much worse than that of the airport. It contains more residues, chemicals and bacteria and sometimes has to deal with unwanted materials such as rubber gloves or tissues from the operation rooms which get in there by mistake or through carelessness, says the operator of the plant, Mr. Leslie Dungworth.

The project team under its coordinator Mr. Mohammed Khawaj of the WRSC includes soil scientists, chemists, a microbiologist and engineers responsible for the irrigation systems.

Site selection

One of the reasons for the selection of particular sites, apart from the fact that they have to be near a sewerage treatment plant, is the very different quality of soils found in the airport area and on the KHMC grounds, while at the former the soils are sandy, shallow and rather infertile, the soils on the hospital grounds are deep and rich and would normally not require additional fertilizer for reasonable yields, Mr. Khawaj says.

This difference is important, he adds, as some of the substances still present in wastewater after secondary treatment — such as

Residue control

The major issue in irrigation with water containing impurities of any kind is residue control, Mr. Khawaj explains. The high content of unwanted and potentially dangerous chemicals in wastewater, which cannot be removed totally by secondary treatment, necessitates thorough and scrupulous research into residues of these elements in plants, fruit, soil and water. It is especially important to control residues of heavy metals such as cadmium, lead, chromium, mercury and others because they can accumulate in the human and animal body as well as in the plants and the soil and then cause serious health hazards and danger to the environment.

Therefore, the researchers of the project have set up an extensive testing programme to check the toxic substances and their uptake by plants, the soil quality and salt build-up, groundwater pollution through seepage, surface water pollution through runoff, pathogens and their transmission as well as the organic and inorganic load of the treated wastewater in general.

However, the solids contained in the waste water, which are retained in the soil, are good soil builders and help to improve the water capacity of the soils, encourage bacterial growth and contribute to soil erosion control, Mr. Khawaj points out.

The treated wastewater is presently not only used for irrigation on the testing sites, but also serves to water all trees and flowering plants at the airport. The results and recommendations of this wastewater reuse project will also be of relevance for the bigger sewerage treatment plants in Jordan, such as the new plant Kirbet Al Samra, which will be completed by the end of 1985 to replace the treatment plant near Zarqa.

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Profit before Tax	US \$ 277 million
Capital/Assets Ratio	exceeds 7%
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Blessing in disguise?

AS ISRAELI Prime Minister Shimon Peres received a note from the U.S. secretary of state on the results of His Majesty King Hussein's visit to Washington, his Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir was giving a statement in which he said he saw nothing positive emerging from Jordanian-American talks in the past week. The Israeli cabinet has so far said nothing in reaction to the Washington summit between the King and President Reagan. But judging by Shamir's statement Sunday, it looks as if the Israelis have one of two ways to proceed. Either that the hardline policy of Peres' Likud partners manages to block the progress that has been made in Washington towards advancing the peace process, or the Labour Party decides that it has had its fill with Shamir & Co. and proceeds to break up the coalition in favour of meeting the Arabs half way in the search for a comprehensive Middle East peace.

It may be a bit too early to see where things could develop from here. But time is running out on the usefulness of adopting vague positions and taking half measures on the peace process. The U.S., for one, will want an answer from the Israelis on their own proposals for movement in the area, and apparently the Reagan administration wants this answer pretty soon. American insistence on answers, if it does come strongly and swiftly, would put the Peres government in a corner from which the Israeli prime minister might have no escape. He would then have to decide if his more urgent priority is peace or staying the distance with Shamir to face the inevitable deadlock.

Word circulated a few months ago that Peres would indeed be willing to break up his coalition with the Likud if he sensed peace with the Arabs was at hand. His party preferred to wait for last month's Histadrut elections, however. And if these were in their favour, the Labour leaders would then be able to say their good-byes to Shamir and colleagues. The Histadrut elections have now been won by the Labour Party, and it is not uncertain that Peres can still head an Israeli government without the Likud partners and without calling new elections for the Knesset. The question now is what he will do in reply to the outcome of the King's talks in the U.S.

The answer lies with him. But the way Washington decides to play the game is going to have a major impact in what transpires from here. George Shultz can play it tough with Israel for a change. Who knows, the secretary of state's toughness this time around might well turn out to be the blessing in disguise he has been waiting for.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Dismaying attitude

WE ARE really dismayed and saddened at Lebanon's attitude at the U.N. Security Council meeting which discussed the situation in Lebanon and the attacks on the Palestinian refugee camps. Lebanon's delegate opposed a council resolution calling for an end to the fighting to enable relief operations to commence. He said that such operations represent an interference in Lebanon's internal affairs.

What is shameful and what should be opposed is not humanitarian relief operations but the actions of the Shi'ite militias against the Palestinian refugees as the Lebanese government continues to look on and do nothing to save the souls of innocent people.

Sovereignty by Lebanon on its territory does not mean allowing criminals to attack innocent people and destroy their homes. These very people whom the militias are massacring now are the same who defended Lebanon against the Israeli invasion and upheld its sovereignty.

All the Arabs support Lebanon's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity but do not support a government favouring one group against another for the killing of innocent people.

Al Dustour: No guarantee of U.S. intentions

A STATEMENT by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz that the American administration would be willing to talk to a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation represents a very slight change in Washington's policy towards the Arab-Israeli conflict. But this position has changed in as much as Shultz's condition that the PLO should openly declare its total acceptance of U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 is met before any dialogue can begin.

It is possible that even if a dialogue is ever held, there is no guarantee that it can achieve any progress at all. The U.S. secretary also made reservations about the idea of an international conference saying that it doubted such a conference would achieve peace, and also placed conditions for holding such a conference particularly those that have to do with the Soviet Union. Such an American attitude towards the Middle East conflict does not help the peace process and there should be more firmness and less hesitancy by Washington if it really wants to end the conflict peacefully.

We are aware that Israel is not happy to see any change in Washington's attitude, and therefore we hope the U.S. administration will find a suitable means of breaking the current deadlock and moving forward towards a genuine peace.

Sawt Al Shaab: Removing U.S. reservations

THE WHOLE world watched as King Hussein pursued his peace campaign in the United States at a time when the Reagan administration had practically abandoned the idea of making serious efforts to give momentum to the peace process. King Hussein, despite that, and through his intensive talks with the Reagan administration, has been able to remove all U.S. reservations about the idea of international conference to discuss peace.

King Hussein's tactfulness has been able to overcome many obstacles and to convince Washington of the genuine desire of Jordan and the whole Arab World for peace and for the need to start a dialogue to pave the way for it. King Hussein has been able, through his relentless efforts, to create convictions and a common ground for understanding designed to implement the Jordan-PLO agreement signed in Amman on Feb. 11.

The King expounded this agreement describing it as a vehicle for peace which can be implemented within the context of an international conference. The King's talks in Washington resulted in the United States announcing its acceptance to start a dialogue with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and declaring its consent to support an international supervision of the peace process.

Increasingly active role for Arab-Americans

By James Zoghby

This is the first in a series of articles which the Jordan Times and its sister Arabic daily Al Rai publish on the Arab-American community in the U.S. and its entrance into mainstream U.S. politics. In this article, the writer, a prominent Arab-American and a political activist and organizer (see right corner) gives a thumbnail sketch of Arab-Americans in five United States communities and outlines the involvement and accomplishments of the Arab-Americans in the presidential races of 1984.

BECAUSE OF the significant effort made by Arab Americans on behalf of his 1984 presidential campaign, the Rev. Jackson asked me to make one of the speeches to the Democratic National Convention nominating him for the presidency of the United States.

Being the first Arab American to mount the podium of the convention of either party, I did so quite conscious of a number of factors.

The first was a personal reflection of my father. Like many Arabic-speaking immigrants to the United States, he came into the country illegally in the late 1920s. The racist immigration laws of that decade were designed to "keep out" the immigrants from the Mediterranean countries (especially Italians, Greeks and Arabs). He worked hard, established himself in a small business and, like so many other Arab Americans, he made it. He had been a peasant and an immigrant, but through his hard work, I received an opportunity to go to a university and become a Ph.D.

As I walked to the podium of the convention, I reflected on the significance of the fact that the son of an illegal immigrant would be nominating the grandson of a slave for the presidency of the United States.

For all of its many faults in both domestic and foreign policy, the United States has presented unprecedented possibilities to its many diverse immigrant peoples. Arab Americans have taken advantage of these possibilities. As a community, they have been a proverbial American rags-to-riches story. They have achieved great success in economic and social life.

The 1984 election and the Jackson campaign provided Arab Americans with an opportunity to play a role as a community in national political life. Like my father, most Arab Americans who participated in the Jackson campaign were immigrants, exercising their full citizenship rights for the first time. They were proud of the role they played in the campaign, and with good reason. Thousands of Arab Americans worked hard to make the Jackson campaign a reality — they raised money, voted, organized events and volunteered their skills and time. I was being asked to represent and to introduce them to the nation. I therefore opened my speech with:

"I am an Arab American. There are two and one-half million Arab Americans. We are steel workers of Syrian descent in Allentown, and auto workers in Detroit. We are Yemeni farm workers in California, and the Lebanese community of Brooklyn. We are the Palestinian grocers of San Francisco. We are professionals and public servants. We are immigrants and citizens proud of being Americans, and proud of our heritage."

I selected these communities because each of them in their own way tells a part of the story of the Arab communities in America.

There are 11,000 Arab Americans in the Allentown-Bethlehem area of eastern Pennsylvania. They are a well-organized and highly motivated community. A number of Allentown's Arab Americans are steelworkers, active in their labour union and in the Democratic Party. This was done through the efforts of Harvey Attiey, one of the pioneers of the community. Mr. Attiey, who was the chair-

man of the Central Labour Council of Allentown (i.e., he was the top trade union leader in the city), organized Arab Americans into the political structure of the community. Arab Americans in Allentown are a model community for ethnic political involvement. At their annual dinner, all candidates for local office appear and ask for support from the Arab Americans. They eat Arabic food, dance the dabke, and pledge support for Arab American concerns.

Because the largest group of Arab Americans in Allentown are from Syria, each year on Syria's Independence Day, the mayor of the city raises the Syrian flag over City Hall.

A continent away, 7,000 Yemeni Arabs work in the fields of California. They are the second largest ethnic group of farm workers in California, behind Caesar Chavez's Mexican Americans. They have laboured for years virtually unknown and without assistance — until recently. Organized efforts by the large Arab American community in California secured some important gains for these farm workers, including the appointment of a full-time government translator.

Even before these developments, the Yemeni Arab immigrants working on their own displayed the same resourcefulness and determination as their predecessors, the immigrants from Lebanon, Syria and Palestine. A visit to any of the towns and cities near the farms show that many of the small businesses and stores are today owned by hard-working Yemenis who are using their wages from the fields to begin a new life for themselves in America.

A short 100 miles to the south of the farm fields is Los Angeles, home to almost 250,000 Arab Americans. With a climate and terrain much like that of the Middle East, Arab Americans feel comfortable in Los Angeles. Of all the communities in the United States, this group is the most well-established and prominent. There are major growers like the El-Farras, who own a large avocado farm to the south of Los Angeles, and Bob Andrews, a former professional baseball player, who is referred to as the "Lettuce King" because of his enormous lettuce farms to the north and south of Los Angeles. In addition, there are prominent doctors (organized into an Arab American Medical Association), builders, attorneys and a large number of Arab Americans in the entertainment field. For example, a recent event in Los Angeles in honour of Casey Kasem, a nationally-known TV and radio personality brought together Arab American celebrities such as Danny Thomas and Jamie Far and Vic Tayback, stars of the respective TV shows "MASH" and "Alice," and the movie maker Mustapha Akkad. The proceeds from the event went to the Arab American African Relief Fund to aid the victims of drought in Africa.

Still in California, to the north is San Francisco, home to more than 50,000, largely Palestinian Arab Americans. There, the Independent Grocers' Association boasts over 800 Palestinian small store owners. Still new to politics, but developing rapidly, this group was able to get the Jewish and pro-Israeli mayor of San Francisco to meet with and honour deported Palestinian mayors Fahd Qawasmeh and Muhammad Milham during their U.S. tour in 1980.

Overall, there are some 2.5 million Arab Americans, one-half the size of the Jewish community. They are 1 per cent of America and, although small in number and until recently virtually unknown, they continue to grow in strength and are increasingly becoming more confident about the political

The writer in person

By Richard Corrigan
National Journal

James J. Zoghby spent the summer of 1971 in Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon and Jordan, researching his doctoral dissertation, and after interviewing virtually all the people in the camps to find out where they had run from and what they had lost, an old woman said to him:

"All right, we've all told you our stories. Now you've heard it all. What are you going to do with it?"

That "provoked me," said Mr. Zoghby — an American-born son of Lebanese immigrants, who grew up speaking Arabic before learning English. He combined his ethnic background, zest for politics and outspoken nature to become an advocate for one of the nation's traditionally quiet ethnic minorities, Arab-Americans.

He has also become an outspoken critic of U.S. Middle East policy who is regarded within the Jewish lobby as an anti-Israel activist. The American Israel Public Affairs Committee, in a report called "The Campaign to Discredit Israel," identifies Mr. Zoghby as a leading U.S. proponent of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Mr. Zoghby, 39, is co-founder and director of the Arab American Institute, a new entry on the Washington scene that intends to bring more Arab Americans into the political process and to operate a bipartisan political action committee for Arab-American candidates.

The institute was launched

with a March 1-2 series of events that included a White House visit with President Reagan by Arab-American leaders, a reception at the Saudi Arabian embassy, a dinner featuring Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole, R-Kan., and workshops on grass-roots ethnic politics.

Mr. Zoghby, who was a deputy manager and leading fund raiser in Jesse Jackson's 1984 presidential campaign, teamed up with George Salem, a Washington attorney who was executive director of the ethnic voters division in the Reagan-Bush campaign, to establish the institute.

"We are both Arab-Americans and we are both committed to furthering the Arab-American cause," Mr. Salem said, with Mr. Zoghby working the Democratic side and Mr. Salem the Republican side.

Mr. Zoghby was co-founder and former director of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, which is chaired by former Sen. James Abourezk, D-S.D. Zoghby and several other staffers left the committee abruptly last fall, evidently as the result of a personality clash between Mr. Abourezk and Mr. Zoghby, and set up the institute soon after. Mr. Zoghby, who wants to avoid reports of rifts among Arab-Americans, said the institute's formation represents an expansion — not a division — of Arab-American leadership.

Mr. Zoghby is also the founder and director of Save Lebanon Inc., an organization that



James Zoghby

has brought 51 Lebanese children injured in that nation's wars to the United States for medical treatment.

Mr. Zoghby grew up in Utica, N.Y., where his father was a grocer, in a community where ethnic heritage was strong. Among the nation's 2.5 million Arab-Americans, he said, "it's like being Hispanic instead of Mexican or Puerto Rican." He graduated from Le Moyne College in Syracuse, N.Y., and earned his doctoral degree in comparative religions at Temple University in Philadelphia — where, he said, he was the target of threats from the Jewish Defence League because of his Arab background.

Is the institute designed to be a counterforce to the Israeli lobby and to the political power of Jewish Americans? "Not at all," Mr. Zoghby said. "I am not merely 'the other side' (of the Israeli lobby) — We are an ethnic minority of our own."

Mr. Salem said: "We are advancing our ethnic constituency. We are not attempting to counter anything... We will not take positions on issues because that is not our purpose."

Mr. Zoghby said the institute's main objective is to increase Arab-Americans' participation in politics. "The more Arab-American Members of Congress there are... and governors, state legislators and mayors... the more Arab-American concerns will be heard," he said.

As far as Mr. Zoghby is concerned personally, those concerns include U.S. policy in the Middle East. "The '67 (Middle East) war produced in me a really profound sense of alienation," Mr. Zoghby said, because he believed U.S. policy was tilted toward Israel, and his study of the refugee camps confirmed that view. "I'm committed to resolving the Middle East dispute and seeing justice for Palestinians," he said.

The oldest and most established of the Arab American communities is in New York City. Some 180,000 Arab Americans live in New York, with the largest of the communities in the section called Brooklyn. Atlantic Avenue in Brooklyn has an Arab business district more developed than many towns in Arab countries. For many Arab American immigrants in other parts of the United States, Atlantic Avenue is the closest thing to the "old country." Some who want to show their children Arab delights will take them to this famous avenue and show them the markets and shops.

New York's Arab community has a rich history. It was the port of entry and the first home for most of the early Arab-American immigrants. It was in New York that the Moukazzel brothers started their famous Arabic language paper "Al Hoda" and their English language magazine "Syrian World," in collaboration with Ameen Rihani and Khalil Gibran.

This is but a thumbnail sketch of a few of our Arab American communities, while a more complete survey has been attempted in a work I edited in 1984 entitled "Taking Root and Bearing Fruit: The Arab American Experience." Space prohibits a full discussion of other Arab-American communities, but there are major areas of Arab-American concentrations such as Detroit with its over 200,000 Arab Americans, and eastern Massachusetts with its 150,000. Also, there are prominent areas such as northern Ohio, northern New York state, northern Illinois, and Houston, Texas, each with well-established Arab American communities of over 100,000.

Overall, there are some 2.5 million Arab Americans, one-half the size of the Jewish community. They are 1 per cent of America and, although small in number and until recently virtually unknown, they continue to grow in strength and are increasingly becoming more confident about the political

role they can play in America. This anonymity ended in 1984 and today, Arab Americans are proudly looking to the future.

The 1984 campaign

Numerous press articles have appeared in the United States during the past year heralding the emergence of Arab Americans as a new political constituency worthy of note.

Just in 1983, at the beginning of this Arab-American entrance into mainstream politics, I was privileged to be the first Arab American to be invited to address the Los Angeles World Affairs Council. I noted in my remarks that Arab Americans were a "political constituency come of age" and would, if given the chance, make a real contribution to U.S. political life. The activities of Arab Americans in the presidential campaign of 1984 have borne this out.

The Jackson campaign presented Arab Americans with their first opportunity to participate in a national presidential race. The community responded enthusiastically to Rev. Jackson's call to join his Rainbow Coalition. I was honoured to serve as vice-chairman of the campaign and as the Reverend's deputy campaign manager, but the most important contributions were the result of the efforts of Arab American volunteers across the country. In seven major cities, volunteers organized events to support Rev. Jackson, each which brought together more than 1,000 Arab Americans.

More than two dozen communities held fundraising events for Rev. Jackson. Others organized voter registration drives and small demonstrations of support for the campaign.

The results were impressive. In four months, Arab Americans raised \$350,000 for the campaign and ten Arab Americans attended the Democratic National Convention as elected delegates or

campaign officials. We went to the convention, as Rev. Jackson noted, "having earned respect and our self-respect."

In addition to our organizational accomplishments, we added some political successes as well. At the Democratic platform hearings we were able, for the first time, to introduce a motion for Palestinian statehood. While it was defeated, our work on another motion to censure Israel's settlement activity missed becoming a minority platform resolution by only seven votes.

To their credit, the Republicans took serious note of this new activity among Arab Americans. We were especially fortunate in this regard since the newly-appointed executive director of the Ethnic Voters Division of the Reagan-Bush campaign was a committed Palestinian American, George Salem. George was able to convince his superiors that this Arab-American activism would work for the president's campaign, and so the Republicans created an "Arab-American Committee." Dozens of Arab-American Republicans became involved as officials of this new committee and hundreds of other Arab Americans volunteered to work for it, ensuring the success of the committee. The recent issue of "First Monday," the official publication of the Republican Party, noted that "the newly-formed Arab American Federation was the top ethnic group in supplying volunteers" for the Reagan campaign.

These efforts have not gone unnoticed at the White House. Recently, President Reagan invited Arab-American leaders to a private "thank you" meeting in the Oval Office and even more recently, George Salem received a presidential appointment as Deputy Solicitor in the Labour Department, the highest such appointment ever for a Palestinian American. In addition, Charles Zoghby, who acted as staff assistant for the Arab Americans at the

Reagan-Bush campaign is now working part-time in the White House office dealing with ethnic affairs.

As impressive as these credits are, it was the Arab-American involvement with the Mondale campaign that established, for many, the new strength of our Arab-American commitment. Mr. Mondale's campaign ran afoul of Arab Americans early in June of 1984 when it returned the contributions of some Arab-American supporters in Chicago. At that point, a national Arab-American campaign forced the Mondale staff to apologize. At Rev. Jackson's encouragement, I was able to use part of my nomination speech for him from the podium of the Democratic Convention to criticize "those who would exclude us from the Democratic Party." Rev. Jackson made similar points in his moving address to the convention.

James Abourezk and I each published nationally-distributed articles and helped organize protests to build publicity for our concerns. Coupled with this was a support effort mounted by Hispanic, Italian American and Black leaders who came to our defence within the Mondale campaign.

All during this time, David Saad of the National Association of Arab Americans was meeting with Mr. Mondale's senior staff to resolve the dispute. Our collective efforts were successful. In September, Mr. Mondale campaign officials acknowledged that they were wrong to have allowed the return of the Arab-American contributions. They went further and publicly invited Arab Americans to join their campaign and then appointed three Arab American elected officials as vice-chairs of their national campaign. While all these moves were too late to win any Arab-American support for the Mondale campaign, they did establish beyond any doubt the new organized power of the Arab American community.

Stroessner of Paraguay is happy after 31 years of dictatorship

By Bernd Debusmann
Reuters

ASUNCION — President Alfredo Stroessner of Paraguay, the world's most durable right-wing military ruler, shows no sign of loosening his harsh regime in response to democratic change in Paraguay's neighbours.

Less than two years ago, Paraguay was part of a solid bloc of military dictatorships that reached from the southern tip of Argentina to the rain forests of Brazil.

Now, all of Paraguay's neighbours are under democratic rule. Brazil ended more than two decades of military rule in March. In Uruguay, in the same month, 11 years of military rule ended when Julio Mario Sanguinetti took over after free elections.

Bolivia turned democratic two years ago and in Argentina, democracy replaced dictatorship in December, 1983. The men charged with responsibility for the

murders of thousands of civilians there are now standing trial in Buenos Aires.

"After our neighbours went democratic, there was a faint glimmer of hope for a political opening here," said Euclides Acevedo, head of the Revolutionary Febrerista Party, one of only two legally-recognised opposition groups. "But now we know Stroessner has no intention of relaxing his totalitarian rule."

Diplomats agree. "As long as he is alive, the chances of change are very remote," a senior Western envoy said.

President Stroessner, 72, has been in power for 31 years. The 1954 coup that brought him in ended almost three decades of political turmoil that saw 22 presidents and constant political bickering, plotting and scheming. The May 4 anniversary of the putsch is called "national pacification day".

Western diplomats say Pre-

sident Stroessner brought stability at the price of freedom, with civil liberties severely curtailed under state of siege restrictions in force for three decades.

Paraguay, a country of three million, is said to have more police per capita than any other Latin American state. But despite the ubiquitous presence of steel-helmeted police, Paraguay appears relatively benign in terms of Latin American dictatorships.

There are no frequent "dis-

appearances" of suspected leftists, as happened routinely in Argentina under military rule. There are no right-wing death squads dragging people out of their homes, as in Guatemala.

Paraguay's Human Rights Commission estimates the number of political prisoners here at around 50, not many by the standards of dictatorships. Both the human rights Commission and the Roman Catholic Church say prisoners are often beaten and tortured.

But unlike the first two decades of President Stroessner's rule, Paraguayans arrested by the police for one reason or another have a fair chance of being released alive, according to diplomats and human rights officials.

"Stroessner consolidated his power with very brutal means," said one envoy. "Now, he no longer needs to roll out the tanks, or have hit squads gun down suspected subversives. People know he can do it, and fear is pervasive."

Carmen de Lara Castro, president of the Human Rights Commission, agreed. "Stroessner succeeded in taming our youth, in making it servile and domesticated. It is almost a miracle that there are a few who question this regime."

Even critics admit that there is no challenge to Gen. Stroessner and his ruling Colorado Party. "I would be lying if I told you there was an alternative," Mr. Acevedo said.



السلامة العامة

KAL007: Journalist intensifies the ambiguities

From Voice

ON SEPTEMBER 1, 1983, a Boeing 747 Flight KAL007 of Korean Air Lines was shot down over Sakhalin Island in the Soviet Far East by a SU-15 fighter of the Soviet Air Force, with the loss of all 269 passengers and crew on board. The incident set off a contest in vituperation between the super-powers, which, a year and a half later, still reverberates. Thus writes journalist Murray Sayle in the "New York Review of Books" dated April 25. He might well have added that Gulf countries like Kuwait were subjected to heavy diplomatic flak from America at the time because they did not immediately condemn the Soviet Union, but wanted to wait to "confirm evidence".

President Reagan called the shoot down "a terrorist act to sacrifice the lives of innocent human beings", while the Soviets have never ceased charging that the aircraft was in fact engaged on a "special mission" of electronic espionage on behalf of the United States, thus by implication justifying what they call their "termination" of the flight.

No satisfactory account of how KAL007 came to be over Soviet territory prohibited to all foreign aircraft has yet been published in either country, although, after a tardy start, the Soviets now freely admit that their fighter shot it down on orders radioed to the pilot from his sector command on the ground.

The incident is still routinely used by American officials as proof of the "evil they attribute to the Soviet system. Mr. Sayle in his very thorough "New York Review" investigation points out that the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration is prevented by court order from answering questions on the subject, and Washington officials refuse to disclose details of the intelligence operation that they agree was actually being conducted against the Soviet installations on Sakhalin Island on the night of the shoot-down.

The inevitable result of American reticence has been copious conspiracy theories.

Mr. Sayle has spent considerable time investigating these on behalf of the London "Sunday Times" and a British television company. What he has already

published has, he says, however, been greeted with a "deafening silence" in America. He now makes several points.

(1) Did the automatic navigational functions of the aircraft fail? In case of any failure of an automatic pilot there are two other electronically-linked instruments to take over. No simultaneous triple failure of such a system has ever been recorded. So any idea that the aircraft "strayed" into Soviet airspace because of some unchecked failure of an automatic pilot seems most unlikely.

(2) If KAL007 was off course and heading into Soviet air space, why did KAL007 report by radio to the Air Route Traffic Control Centre at Anchorage that it was passing over Bethel when it was already unacceptably off-course? And why, for that matter, did the aircraft's crew make altogether four reports that night that they were passing "waypoints" on the international route R20 toward its destination when we now know that KAL007 must have been getting further and further off course, and never actually passed over any of them? Mr. Sayle comments that

these false reports, intentional or otherwise, have naturally fanned the fires of suspicion among conspiracy theorists.

(3) On a magnetic compass heading of 246 degrees KAL007 was headed virtually straight for the Soviet naval base at Petropavlovsk on the Kamchatka Peninsula, where something like ninety Soviet nuclear-powered submarines, including apparently twenty-nine missile-carrying submarines, are claimed to be based. Near Petropavlovsk is the splash-down area for the Soviet missile launching site at Plesetsk where, that very night, it is not disputed that a test firing was scheduled of what is termed a "SALT-sensitive" SS-X-24 missile.

Mr. Sayle attempts to reach the conclusion that there was no known or probable conspiracy by the United States or by the Boeing pilot or crew to invade Soviet airspace on a spying mission. However, there are enough extraordinary "coincidences" recorded in his investigation that it would seem to any fair-minded reader to justify the attitude of "be cautious before condemning"

displayed by the Kuwait Foreign Ministry when the United States Department asked them to make

their position clear, way back in September 1983 — Voice of the Arab World, London.



Randa Habib's Corner

Much more than moving

LAST WEEK I lived a real nightmare. A nightmare that still shakes me when I remember it. Yes, last week, I moved from a place to another.

I never thought that changing a home would mean so much nuisance, stress and problems of all kinds. First of all, none of the appointments that you take with people who will help you furnish your apartment is kept. The man who will hang your curtains promises to meet you at your new place at 9 a.m. "sharp". At two p.m., you are still waiting for him to show up. Eventually, he will come at 4 p.m. to tell you after 15 minutes that he must leave: "It is Ramadan, you know, and in Ramadan we never work that late," he would say. You feel like murdering him why didn't you come earlier then? "We had an appointment, remember?"

"Yes, yes," he answers. "Tomorrow, I will come earlier, and all your curtains will be hung." A week later, you are still waiting for him.

As for the wall-to-wall carpet, you nearly have a nervous breakdown before you get any work done.

But your surprises do not stop here. The nightmare starts when you live in your new house: a tap does not work, a window is stuck, many doors do not shut, the lamps do not lit, the cupboards are shaky, and you start wondering if the walls of the house will hold for a while or if you will soon have to put up with an avalanche.

So, as I was telling you, last week I moved to a new house. And today I keep asking myself if there is someone, somewhere, who keeps an appointment, who does not cheat, who does what he has promised to do. Yes, I am sure there is; but unfortunately I haven't met him.

Israeli occupation deprived Jericho of unique position

By Daoud Kuttab

MOST OF the tourists who visit the Holy Land remember Jericho as one of the oldest and the lowest places in the world. But for Palestinians, it is most remembered for its sweet oranges and as a warm winter resort. Until a decade and a half ago the city was a favourite resort not only for Palestinians but for people from all over the Middle East. But now the wealthy Arabs no longer go to pass the winter there, and their houses in the suburbs are almost all empty. Only a few West Bankers who own houses come to visit their homes over the weekends.

The city now is just a place for tourists stopping on their way to Nazareth and Tiberias, and for wealthy families from Jerusalem, Bethlehem and Ramallah who take their winter there. Despite its long history, Jericho has not crumbled away, but the 1967 war has left many scars. Before then Jericho had a bustling population of about 150,000; now it numbers no more than 15,000. A large majority of those who left in '67 were Palestinian refugees who had been living in Ain as-Sultan and Aqbat Jaber camps. Today these camps are nearly deserted. Almost all the city's hotels have been closed and so Jericho considers itself fortunate that even the picknickers still come; but things are difficult for them too. The clubs and parks which used to stay open until the early hours of the morning are now concentrated in just one area of the city, and they are closed at sunset. After five p.m. the Israelis at their checkpoints on the city outskirts search the road-users thoroughly. The latest problem for the picknickers is being caused by the local police, who in a state of over-zealousness are handing out traffic tickets for the most minor infractions. The fruit salesmen are faring even worse. Not only has their business been hurt by the decrease in the number of visitors, but they are the focus of the attentions of the police and face daily fines. Because of the heat, they place their fruit outside their shops, but this infringes the local law and incurs a fine. One paid 33 fines in one month.

The country around Jericho is flat and cooler than other parts of the West Bank, which makes it a favourite place for cyclists. Almost every family in Jericho owns at least one bicycle, and the visitors, especially the young, head for the nearest bicycle rental shop when they arrive. But even they face problems. The areas in which they can cycle are now restricted. Before the occupation they used to ride to al-Maghatah, the site on the Jordan river where Jesus is believed to have been baptised, and to the al-Fasika Springs and the

Dead Sea. But now the area round the river is closed and the Dead Sea and al-Fasika Springs are surrounded by Israeli troops.

One of the major tourist attractions in Jericho is the remains of the walls of what may be the oldest city in the world and Hisam's Palace, the most beautiful of palaces built during the Arab Umayyad rule in the eighth century. Although archaeological sites in the occupied territories have been taken over by the Israeli National Park Authority, Israeli guides and Israeli tourists publicly material almost completely ignore the palace.

On weekdays, Jericho is quiet, except for the morning rush at the local wholesale market, but now there is far less to be bought here than before the occupation. The departure of tens of thousands of refugees has resulted in the loss of many jobs, and even the remaining locals have been lured away from the farms by the higher pay they can earn in Israeli factories.

The larger landowners have been forced to lease their farms in small plots to local farmers. However, despite the shortage of labour, farms have been producing more per dunum. Much of this success is due to advanced Israeli farming technology. Ironically, as one farming expert admitted, the Israeli introduced their water saving drip irrigation methods for security reasons as the authorities did not want Palestinian farmers out in the fields late at night watering their crops, as they could be used as a way to infiltrate Palestinian fighters.

The higher productivity has caused marketing problems. The Israeli army has forbidden Palestinian farmers to market their goods in Israeli markets. The result is that there is over-production and a lot of fruit and vegetables have to be left to rot. Last year the cost of picking and packing was greater than the selling price. The Jordanian-Palestinian joint committee tried to come up with a remedy by reimbursing the farmers for last year's losses by giving them 20 dinars for each dunum they owned.

This year farmers expect better returns on their produce. The rains have been good and prices have been steady. However the future is far from certain for Jericho's tourist and farming industries. And if any Jericho resident had a dream of a better future it must have been shattered by Israel's prime minister, Shimon Peres, when he visited the Jordan Valley and the Jewish settlements there: he assured the settlers that the Valley settlements were an integral part of Israel and would never be given up — Middle East International, London.

Soviet consumer expects better-quality goods now

Patrick Cockburn explains Moscow's difficulties in providing goods which people want to buy and how hams and sausages may help to change the face of Soviet production.

MOSCOW — Factories in the centre of the Soviet Union have a unique method of disposing of poor quality goods that nobody wants to buy.

The goods are sent north to the Arctic regions during the brief summer period when the ice melts and they can be shipped to settlements accessible by boat.

Even in these isolated villages the goods normally remain unsold. But the shops cannot return them to the suppliers because, by this time, the sea has frozen over again. Factory managers can claim that they have met their production targets.

The example is extreme, but it does illustrate some of the perils facing the consumer in the Soviet retail system. Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, the new Soviet leader, has repeatedly said that the quality of consumer and capital goods must be raised.

How does it happen that one factory puts out an old-fashioned product of low technical quality,

consumer goods that do not respond to what the public wants, yet still goes on as normal and sometimes even thrives? he asked a meeting of industrial and agricultural managers in Moscow last month.

He plans to improve matters by making individual plants and enterprises more responsive to the needs of their customers. Managers, workers and farmers are to see real financial rewards for gains in productivity and the output of quality goods.

But getting products of the right quality and quantity is not merely a question of more money and better organisation. The problem is intimately linked to the prices charged in the shops. If the consumer wants goods of better quality, he or she will have to pay more. Economic logic would suggest.

The state is already burdened by the cost of heavy subsidies for basic commodities. Meat, eggs and milk are subsidised at a cost of 40 billion roubles (\$46.5 billion) a

year.

In some respects the present problem is a consequence of the success of the past policy to provide for people's basic needs almost free. Staple foodstuffs, accommodation, transport, education, health, gas and electricity have all been very cheap or free for several decades.

Rent for state housing is on average three per cent of individual income, a kilo of meat in a shop costs two roubles (\$2.33) and it is possible to go anywhere on the Moscow metro for five kopecks (six cents).

This contrasts with the high prices charged for cars, or for goods of purportedly superior quality. In the farmers' markets for instance, where prices are not controlled, a good cut of meat costs eight roubles a kilo. Three tulips cost four roubles.

The problem with this two-tier system is that real incomes have risen sharply over the past 15 years. Cash wages rose by 150 per cent between 1965 and 1980. Savings in the banks between 1975 and 1983 almost doubled to 187 billion roubles.

The result is that even a more efficient agricultural system would have difficulty in satisfying the growing demand for the cheap subsidised products. Farmers have a major incentive to cultivate their private plots, growing produce for which they can command exorbitant prices, rather than to put more effort into the state farms on which they work.

"Even though deliveries of meat to the cities increased from 5.3 million tons in 1965 to 10.3 million tons in 1980, this did not cover the growth in demand," lamented Mr. V. Tikhonov, a senior agricultural economist, recently.

The inability to meet the growth in demand over the past 20 years is shown not only by the very high prices on the free market for better quality goods but by the rapid growth of the black market.

The black market expanded rapidly during the 1970s and early 1980s, and now meets much of the demand for services. A survey shows that 38 per cent of petrol purchased by private motorists is bought cheaply on the black market.

In some areas the black market is expensive — the need to pay doctors for quality medical care which is supposed to be free is resented by ordinary people. Official attacks on "indiscipline and corruption" by Mr. Gorbachev, echoing a theme of his predecessor Mr. Yuri Andropov, evoke popular approval.

A comprehensive programme for the improvement of consumer services has been drawn up and will stand alongside the food and energy programmes as a priority for investment. It is unlikely, however, that the price of basic goods will be changed because of the state's political commitment to its citizens.

Higher prices are instead likely to be associated with the shift towards better quality products, because such goods cannot be produced unless the suppliers see higher rewards.

Last summer an experimental agrarian and industrial enterprise, called Kuban, combining farms, factories and shops was set up in Krasnodar in the south.

Its annual sales are estimated to

be 365 million roubles. Part of its output goes to the state at existing purchase prices and the rest is sold through its own retail shops at prices decided by the Kuban company.

The company has to meet its own production costs without subsidies, so its prices are higher than those in the state shops. But the Kuban shops have eight different types of sausage meat, cheap hams and other meat products found nowhere else in Krasnodar.

Departments and ministries in Moscow at first tried to instruct Kuban on the types and quantities of products it was to grow or manufacture and the prices at which they were to be sold. Other ministries tried to sequester part of the company's equipment, says the managing director.

But Kuban retained its independence and the pricing structure it uses is likely to become increasingly common in the Soviet Union. "Our work will be judged only by the quality and quantity of goods we place in the shops," says the manager of this new enterprise — Financial Times news feature.

Rainforests die to provide land and profits for the rich

Rainforests — and their potential rich harvests of food, medicines and materials — are in danger. These forests vanish not to provide land and goods to the poor, but to provide land and profits for the rich.

By Catherine Caufield

LONDON — Between 40 per cent and 50 per cent of all living things dwell in tropical rainforests, though these cover less than 2 per cent of the globe. Boundlessly fertile and the source of undiscovered foods, medicines and materials, rainforests around the world are the target of state-sanctioned destructions.

The most comprehensive study to date, published in 1981 by the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), says that at present rates almost one fifth of the world's remaining forests will be destroyed or severely degraded in the next 15 years. But the rate of deforestation in the world's remaining rainforests is likely to increase, as industrial development and logging take their toll.

Why are these forests — the richest, oldest, most complex ecosystems on earth — being cut down at such a rate? Why destroy something so irreplaceable? To sell its timber, to get at the gold and iron underneath, to get more land for agriculture. There are psychological motives too: the wish to conquer nature, and fear of the unknown. Nationalistic and strategic desires to occupy uncontrolled regions also play a role.

Overpopulation is usually cited as the main cause of deforestation. Rainforests are often used by governments as safety valves to defuse pressure for land reform. The

safety valve approach is misguided. Rainforests are not empty; small groups of people are already living wherever the forest can support human life. Nor is the intact forest idle. It conditions the soil, regulates rainfall, and maintains the water cycle far beyond its own borders.

The true cause of agricultural settlement in rainforests is often inequitable land distribution rather than simple overpopulation. Among the rainforest countries, only Haiti, India, Sri Lanka and El Salvador have a population density higher than 155 people per square kilometre. Japan, Great Britain, Belgium, the Netherlands and West Germany all have more than 230 per square kilometre.

Most attempts to turn rainforest into farmland have failed disastrously, damaging the forest, disrupting the soil and water balance for other farmers, and leaving the settlers even more desperate for land.

Brazil, which has a policy of moving settlers into the Amazonia rainforest — supported by funds from the World Bank — does not need that land for agriculture. Taking potential farmland into account, but leaving aside Amazonia, each family in Brazil could have four hectares. Instead, 4.5 per cent of Brazil's landowners own 81 per cent of the country's farmland, and 70 per cent of the country's rural households are landless. In most developing coun-

tries, less than 10 per cent of the rural population farms more than half the arable land.

The largest rainforest resettlement schemes in the world, those in Indonesia and Brazil, are intended chiefly to secure national sovereignty by establishing a civilian presence in frontier regions. In the words of one member of the former Brazilian junta, "When we are certain that every corner of the Amazon is inhabited by genuine Brazilians and not by Indians, only then will we be able to say that the Amazon is ours".

In many areas the main cause of deforestation is not agricultural settlement by poor farmers, but resource exploitation by the state or wealthy investors. Raising cattle for export is the chief culprit in Latin America's deforestation. According to Brazilian government figures, 38 per cent of all deforestation in the Brazilian Amazon between 1966 and 1975 is attributable to agricultural colonisation, followed by 27 per cent for highway construction.

In Southeast Asia, Oceania, and Africa, logging vies with peasant agriculture as the main cause of deforestation. According to FAO figures, peasant agriculture in Indonesia affects 202,000 hectares (500,000 acres) of rainforest a year, only a quarter of the area annually affected by logging.

As people destroy the rainforests, millions of species of plants and animals, the vast majority of which are unstudied by science, lose their habitats. Scientists have scarcely begun to ask how humans might benefit from the

products of the forest.

Fewer than 1 per cent of tropical forest species have been screened for chemical compounds. Yet one can judge their potential by the effect that rainforest species have already had. Without quinine, coffee, and rubber the histories of medicine, agriculture,

industry — and of nations — would be different.

Despite claims that rainforests must be sacrificed for the betterment of the poor and landless, the effect of most rainforest exploitation is to redistribute wealth upward. The permanent wide-

reaching benefits of the intact forest are sacrificed for the short-term profit of a small group of investors and consumers. The rest of the world — those who live in rainforest countries and those who do not — is the poorer for it — Earthscan feature.



Brazilian Amazon: A rich vault of genetic variety, Brazil's rainforest is being axed in a fever of expansionism (Earthscan photo)

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IOC director to quit post

EAST BERLIN (Agencies) — Monique Berlioux, director of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) since 1971, is to part company with the IOC, committee sources said Sunday.

The sources said the circumstances of Berlioux's split with the IOC were not immediately clear, but they indicated she had not resigned voluntarily.

It was understood that three members of the IOC executive board were drafting the terms under which Berlioux would part company with the IOC.

The three were believed to be West German IOC Vice-President Berthold Beitz, Prince Alexandre de Merode of Belgium and Keba Mbaye of Senegal.

An official statement was expected later Sunday.

The decision shocked delegates attending the 90th session of the IOC, to be formally opened Monday by East German head of state Erich Honecker.

There was immediate speculation that Berlioux would be replaced as IOC director by Walter Troeger of West Germany, at present the IOC sports director.

It had been apparent in Olympic circles for some time that Berlioux's working relationship with IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch was sometimes less than cordial, but it was not immediately clear to what extent this was a factor in the decision to terminate her contract.

Berlioux, 59, was a former French swimming champion who competed at the 1948 London Olympics. She joined the IOC in 1967 as press and public relations officer.

Mme. Berlioux was earlier serving as press chief of France's Ministry of Youth and Sports. After four years as head of IOC's administrative and information department, she took over as the committee's director in 1971.

She played a leading role in planning the Olympic Games in Munich, 1972, Montreal, 1976, Moscow, 1980, Los Angeles, 1984 and the winter games in Sapporo, Japan, 1972, Innsbruck, Austria, 1976, Lake Placid, New York, 1980 and Sarajevo, Yugoslavia, 1984.

She was currently engaged in intensive preparations for the summer games in Seoul and the winter games in Calgary, Canada — including the negotiations for hundreds of millions of dollars in television rights for the 1988 events.

Slaney fails in world record bid

EUGENE, Oregon (R) — Mary Slaney, over-eager in her first outdoor race for almost 10 months, set a U.S. record for the 5,000 metres but failed in her bid at the world mark in the Prefontaine Classic Grand Prix athletics meeting Saturday night.

Olympic 800 metres champion Joaquim Cruz of Brazil notched the fastest time this year for the 1,500 metres — 3:35.70 — as he held off Americans Jim Spivey and Steve Scott for his first victory in the two Grand Prix meets to date.

Slaney, who last appeared outdoors as Mary Decker in the Los Angeles Olympic 3,000 metres final which she failed to finish after a tangle with Britain's Zola Budd, ran the 5,000 metres in 15 minutes 6.53 seconds.

She set a U.S. record — as she had in her only two previous 5,000 metres — but had been confident of breaking the world record of 14:58.89 held by Norway's Ingrid Kristiansen.

Her attempt may have failed because she was running in her hometown, she said. "I ran the first lap much too fast. I think I was just too excited to run here."

Slaney added that the conditions were good despite steady rain. "The conditions were great. I just didn't feel strong enough."

Cruz has now pipped Scott to the tape twice in two weeks. In the mile race at the international meet in Los Angeles two weeks ago, the long-striding Brazilian came from eight metres back on the final straight to overtake the American at the wire.

Scott, who finished third Saturday night 0.01 of a second behind Spivey's 3:45.82, said he felt he had run quite well. But he added: "Coming into the last 100 metres, I felt like I just didn't have

the speed yet. I'm still rusty."

Cruz was happy with his form. "I was comfortable with the pace," he said. "It was a pace I like to run at and I'm glad I did, since that was my best time ever."

Double world record-holder Jarmila Kratochvilova of Czechoslovakia also shone, clocking a 1985 world best time of 1:58.10 for the women's 800 metres.

Kratochvilova had hoped to have Olympic silver medalist Kim Gallagher to push her to an even faster time but the American decided not to run.

Another world best for this year came from South African-born American Sydney Maree, who won the men's 5,000 metres in 13:30.48.

In the pole vault, Olympic champion Pierre Quinon of France was beaten by American Mike Tully, who cleared 5.80 metres.

Lloyd reaches Paris quarter-finals

PARIS (R) — World number two Chris Evert-Lloyd of the United States reached the quarter-finals of the French Open Tennis championships Saturday with a comprehensive 6-2, 6-3 win over Steffi Graf of West Germany, half her age at 15.

Lloyd, bidding for a record sixth women's singles title here, displayed her full repertoire of shots as she swept to victory in 81 minutes.

The American, who struggled to overcome Graf 6-4, 7-5 two weeks ago in West Berlin, was far more impressive on Saturday. The number two seed broke service twice in the first set and from 2-2 in the second lost only one more

game, the eighth in which Graf saved two match points as she broke Lloyd's serve.

Lloyd said she had prepared for a tough match. "I expected the worst, a real struggle, and when you expect a tough match it always seems easier afterwards when you win."

But she also praised her opponent and predicted a great future to her. "Graf will be a great player. She can play on any surface unlike many other up-and-coming girls."

"In my mind she was the major threat in my half of the draw," she added.

Lloyd is likely to face eighth-seeded Carling Bassett in the quarter-finals. The Canadian has

never beaten her.

In the men's event, seven-seeded Joakim Nystrom swept into the last eight with a 7-6, 6-1, 6-1 win over Chile's Hans Gildemeister.

Nystrom is one of five seeded Swedish players still in contention for the men's title. The others are Mats Wilander, winner here in 1982, Stefan Edberg, Anders Jarred and Henrik Sundstrom, who faces world number one John McEnroe later Sunday.

Asked about the prospect of meeting McEnroe in the next round, Nystrom said: "I'd rather play Sundstrom. McEnroe is still by far the best player on the circuit."

12 cities compete to host 1992 Olympics

EAST BERLIN (R) — The countdown to select the 1992 Olympic hosts begins in earnest this week when twelve candidate cities present their cases to the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

Representatives from six summer and six winter candidate cities will present their applications to the 90th session of the IOC, which will be formally opened Monday by Erich Honecker, the East German head of state.

The presentations will mark the start of more than a year of intensive lobbying by the candidates before the IOC meets in Lausanne, Switzerland, in October next year to decide the 1992 venues.

Among the cities applying for the summer games, Paris and Barcelona remain the front runners. The French application is geared to coincide with the centenary of the appeal by Baron Pierre de Coubertin in 1892 which resulted in the formation of the modern

Olympic movement.

Spanish hopes are based in part on the fact that Barcelona is the home of IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch.

Amsterdam is seen as a possible compromise candidate if the IOC is divided between Paris and Barcelona. The remaining registered candidates, Belgrade, Brisbane and New Delhi, are given only an outside chance of success.

The deadline for entries has been extended to accommodate a proposed British bid, probably on behalf of London, which could emerge as a challenge to Amsterdam as a compromise choice.

There appears to be no obvious front runner for the winter games, for which the candidates are Albertville (France), Berchtesgaden (West Germany), Cortina (Italy), Falun (Sweden), Lillehammer (Norway) and Sofia.

The relaxed mood of IOC members arriving for the three-day session, which starts its main work on Tuesday, contrasted sharply with the tensions of the emergency IOC session held in Lausanne six months ago when the future of the Olympic movement appeared in jeopardy.

With the Soviet Union gnawing about the choice of Seoul as the venue for the 1988 summer games, a repeat of the 15-nation boycott of Los Angeles seemed possible.

But the tension, which reached a peak at the Lausanne meeting when Soviet Olympic officials accused the IOC of malpractice in its dealings with Los Angeles, has eased considerably in recent months.

Samaranch made clear at an IOC executive board meeting in Lausanne last week that he felt the threat of an East European boycott of Seoul had receded following encouraging comments from Moscow and other East European capitals.

The East Berlin agenda also includes the election of two additional members to the nine-man IOC executive board. IOC sources said Marc Hodler, Swiss president of the International Ski Federation, and Chinese sports administrator He Zhenliang were favourites.

Samaranch is also expected to appoint about four new members to the IOC.

Belgium's formula one Grand Prix postponed

FRANCORCHAMPS, Belgium (R) — Formula one lost a Grand Prix motor race Sunday but may have avoided a tragedy.

The sport's governing body took the unprecedented step of postponing the Belgian Grand Prix on the eve of the event because they judged the super-fast Spa Francorchamps track was too dangerous.

Its new tarmac surface laid only

last month, bad weather prevented a prompt start, had softened and "lifted" on several corners. Drivers climbed out of their cars after a couple of apprehensive laps early on Saturday and reported: "It's dangerous. It's like driving on ice."

The special asphalt used for resurfacing was put down to decrease the risk of aquaplaning. Rain has often been a hazard on the spectacular Ardennes Forest circuit but ironically the weather here this week has been fine.

A day-long series of track inspections followed the suspension of practice and International Motor Sport Federation (FISA) stewards declared finally: "In its present condition the track is unsuitable for formula one cars."

The FISA announcement followed a protracted debate between drivers, led by safety-conscious world champion Niki Lauda of Austria, team managers and officials.

UEFA to impose sanctions on English soccer teams

ZURICH (R) — The executive committee of the European Football Union (UEFA) could impose severe sanctions on English soccer teams Sunday when it meets in Basel to discuss riots at the European Cup final in Brussels which left 38 dead.

Sanctions could go beyond action taken by English authorities that have pulled clubs out of next year's European competitions. UEFA General Secretary Hans Bangerter warned.

Belgian officials say they expect UEFA to ban English clubs from European competitions for three years and Liverpool, whose fans were widely blamed for the riots

before the match against Juventus of Turin, for five years.

The committee had planned to meet at the end of June. Bangerter said the decision to meet earlier had been taken because of "pressure and the actuality of the case."

Bangerter welcomed the English authorities' withdrawal from next year's competitions but said it had no bearing on any UEFA decision.

Asked if UEFA could go beyond England's own move, he replied: "Of course. Sanctions will have to be taken and they will be severe."

UEFA also said it planned to

take legal action following allegations that the match had been rigged to allow the Italian team to win.

UEFA said in a statement that it was outraged about assertions made on Friday night on Belgian television to that effect. "This is a scandalous allegation. We can only find out who is responsible and take them before a law court," Bangerter said.

Belgian television had quoted "absolutely reliable sources" as saying a decision had been made to let the Italian team Juventus win. Juventus beat Liverpool 1-0 after scoring from a penalty.

4th seeded Wilander: happy 'near' the top

PARIS (AP) — Mats Wilander is a professional athlete from Sweden who says he is perfectly content for now, with being the fourth-best tennis player on earth.

He lives in the tax-haven of Monaco. He's got plenty of money that he lets other people worry about and he likes to putter around the golf course to relax.

"Even if I thought that's what it took to be no. 1, I wouldn't train eight hours a day. It's not worth it," he said at the French open following an impressive victory over the young West German powerhouse, Boris Becker.

"I'd like to be no. 1, but it's not easy."

Six weeks shy of his 21st birthday, Wilander has been ranked in the top seven since he was 17. But earlier this year, many wondered whether he really wanted, or deserved, to even be in the top 10.

Since successfully defending his Australian open crown last Dec-

ember Wilander has struggled through 1985 without a tournament victory.

He was ousted in the second round in Philadelphia, beaten in the fourth round in Delray Beach, settled for second place in Brussels, dumped in the second round at Rotterdam, runnerup again at Monte Carlo, beaten in the second round of the WCT indoor finals, lost in the semifinals at Hamburg and lost again in that round at Rome.

But here at the French open, the tournament that catapulted him to fame in 1982, much of the talk is about Mats Wilander. Observers say the Swede is now concentrating on the big events and has got his game in order for this one, the world's premier Grand Prix clay court contest.

"I consider the French and Wimbledon the two biggest," he told reporters. "And also the centre court here seems to suit me."

It suited him three years ago

when, at 17, he defeated Guillermo Vilas of Argentina in a marathon match to become the youngest man ever to win a Grand Prix event. That victory followed his triumph at Monte Carlo, the season's first major clay court test.

For the rest of that year, Wilander appeared unbeatable on clay.

But critics rated him suspect on faster surfaces, and fans found his methodical baseline play, deep return after deep return until his opponent faltered, boring.

His back-to-back championships on fast grass at the Australian open has given lie to the first criticism. And since mid-1985, Wilander has been attacking the net with increasing frequency, using all of the court and generating popular excitement at his matches.

Wilander makes no apologies for his earlier, patient, way of winning. "At that time (1982) that's all I could do" — rally from the back of the court. "But you do

what you have to win."

"Since then I've grown as a player," he added. "I try to improve everything."

He added that his tentative early-season play this year was due, in part, to a loss of confidence in his most effective weapon, a bullet-like backhand passing shot that kept opponents back and forced them to play his deep-court game.

"I've been hitting the backhand with a lot more confidence here," he said. "I just hope it stays there."

Wilander downplays suggestions that his new, more aggressive style is a radical change. He says it's a matter of gradual evolution, of growing confidence that he can come in "and get the point over early."

But this particular player has another particularity. Patience usually comes with age. "I'm getting less patient as I get older," Wilander says.

English, Italian soccer players attend mass

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Italian and English soccer players sat side by side Saturday during a mass held in memory of the 38 people killed in this week's soccer riot in Belgium.

The riot allegedly began when English fans attacked the Italian cheering section. But here, where the two nations' official soccer teams were in training, there were some gestures of peace.

Trevor Francis of England and Bruno Conti of Italy smiled broadly as they shook hands before the mass. Earlier, Italy's Paolo Rossi proposed a benefit game for the families of those who died in the riot.

Mexico's national team also attended, mourning its country's own dead in another soccer tragedy last Sunday. Eight people died as thousands jammed into a stadium tunnel trying to get into a play-off game for the Mexican national championship.

A table set up in the large grassy patio, flanked by flowers, served as an altar. The three nations' teams, Italy's and Mexico's, dressed in practice outfits. England's in suits and ties, listened to a sermon that remembered the dead from both of this week's soccer tragedies.

Many sat with their heads bowed, their faces solemn.

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(Colour)

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Cinema AL-HUSSEIN

Tel: 22117

IT IS ME WHO DESERVES

(Arabic)

Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema RAINBOW

Tel: 625155

THE WINGED SERPENT

(Colour)

3:30, 5:30, 8:15, 10:45

Cinema OPERA

Tel: 675573

WOMEN

3:30, 5:30, 9:00, 10:45

Abdali, behind ALIA offices

Cinema PALESTINE

Tel: 22117

1- THE STEEL CHAIN 2- THE APE-STYLE KONG-FU

(Colour)

Performances: 12-3-7

Cinema RAGHADAN

Tel: 22198

SOHAJ

(Indian)

Performances: 12-3-5:30-8

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Philadelphia

Tel: 34144 34948

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(Colour)

Performances: 12-3-5:30-8

Show at 3:30, 9:00, 10:45

Tel. 34144 34948

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Gandhi, Jayewardene visit cyclone-hit areas in Bangladesh

Indian, Sri Lankan leaders hold 'extensive talks' on Tamil crisis

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP) — Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and Sri Lankan President Junius R. Jayewardene stepped simultaneously Sunday from a special Indian Air Force plane to visit hurricane-stricken areas of Bangladesh.

The two leaders were met by Bangladesh President Hussain Mohammad Ershad, who led them along a reception line to a helicopter for a trip to the worst-hit island of Urit Char, where many of the survivors of a May 24-25 storm were gathered.

The leaders issued no statement upon arrival but had said earlier they were coming to show sympathy following the storm and tidal wave that killed at least 10,000 people and left thousands more homeless.

Customary formalities that usually greet visiting heads of state or government were lacking, but the airport was decorated with Indian and Sri Lankan flags.

Indian and Sri Lankan flags flew

from the aircraft that brought the two leaders.

Zia International Airport was closed to the public and no crowds greeted Mr. Gandhi and Mr. Jayewardene.

Scores of armed police guarded the airport. Gen. Ershad's Presidential Guards stood among the arriving plane and seven helicopters that carried the three leaders, other officials and journalists to the island 350 kilometres south of Dhaka.

The Bangladesh government news agency had called the visit by the two leaders an "unprecedented neighbourly gesture."

Earlier Sunday Mr. Gandhi held "extensive discussions" with Mr. Jayewardene in New Delhi on

resolving the island nation's ethnic crisis, a government spokesman said.

The meeting came a day after suspected Tamil separatist guerrillas killed at least 50 Sinhalese and set fire to more than 50 houses in raids on six villages in Sri Lanka's eastern sector. Local officials also reported two naval guards were killed in an attack on a police station.

An External Affairs Ministry spokesman said Mr. Jayewardene and Mr. Gandhi met alone for 45 minutes and then were joined by Sri Lanka's National Security Minister, Lalith Athulathmudali, and India's Defence Minister, P.V. Narasimha Rao.

The spokesman, T.C.A. Rangachari, said the leaders held "extensive discussions" on various aspects of the ethnic situation in Sri Lanka, where minority Tamil guerrillas are fighting for an independent state.

While Mr. Jayewardene and

Mr. Gandhi met at the presidential palace, senior aides held separate "informal consultations," he said.

The spokesman gave no other details, declining comment on whether any specific proposals were discussed or whether the talks were aimed at drafting the framework for a political settlement.

Mr. Gandhi and Mr. Jayewardene continued their talks during the two-and-a-half hour flight to Bangladesh, Mr. Rangachari said. They also were expected to hold a final round of discussions Monday morning before Mr. Jayewardene returns to Colombo in mid-afternoon, he said.

The mostly-Hindu Tamils, who comprise about 18 per cent of the island's 15 million population, claim the Buddhist Sinhalese-led government discriminates against them in language, education and employment.

China voices concern about arms race

PEKING (Agencies) — China Sunday stressed its shared concern with Europe about the nuclear arms race between the superpowers at the start of a three-nation West European tour by Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang.

The official press hailed the trip to Britain, West Germany and the Netherlands, saying Mr. Zhao's tour would boost trade and reinforce world peace.

The Communist Party newspaper the People's Daily said Peking shared the concern of Western Europe about the nuclear arms race between the United States and the Soviet Union. Together they could help tip the balance in favour of peace.

"At present the massive nuclear arms race between the superpowers is in full swing and threatens to escalate into space, thus posing a grave menace not only to peace in Europe but also to Asia and the world," the authoritative newspaper said in an editorial

Sunday.

Meanwhile officials of President Ronald Reagan's administration say the United States will let the Soviet Union make the first move in the upcoming round of arms control talks in Geneva, the New York Times reported in its Sunday editions.

Diplomats on both sides of the negotiations said they expect some progress in the second round of talks, but Mr. Reagan administration officials said they doubt that there will be a significant breakthrough, the Times said.

According to the newspaper's account, administration officials said Mr. Reagan has concluded that the Soviet Union has hardened its positions on arms control, and has ordered U.S. negotiators to stand firm until the Soviets "get serious."

The Times said Soviet diplomats in Washington have hinted that they will offer new or at least more specific proposals at the

negotiations, which resume Thursday.

But neither side is believed to have altered their basic positions.

"We haven't," said one senior State Department official, who was not identified, "and there is no sign that any likely Soviet proposal will be attractive enough to push us off our dime."

However, administration officials said, the new round of talks appears linked to prospects for a summit meeting later this year between Mr. Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

The officials said Secretary of State George Shultz was authorised to signal arms control compromises in his meetings in Vienna last month with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko in return for Mr. Gromyko agreeing to a summit meeting.

But, the administration officials said, Mr. Gromyko dodged the subject and Mr. Shultz did not offer the concessions.

Tamil rebels attack police station, blow up bridge

COLOMBO (R) — Separatist guerrillas stormed a police station and blew up a bridge in eastern Sri Lanka only a day after killing at least 50 people in raids on Sinhalese villages in the same area.

Guerrillas sprayed gunfire and threw bombs Saturday night as they attacked the station at Kuchchavellai, about 30 kilometres from the east coast port of Trincomalee town, a senior government politician told reporters.

The latest raid came as President Junius Jayewardene flew into New Delhi for talks Sunday with Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on the island's ethnic unrest.

The rebels, fighting for a separate Tamil state, also blew up a bridge linking Kuchchavellai and Nilaveli, disrupting communications between the north and the east coasts.

Thousands of Sri Lankans prayed in Buddhist temples and churches Sunday for the success of the Jayewardene-Gandhi summit on measures to defuse the tension between majority Sinhalese and minority Tamils.

A senior government politician, who asked not to be named, told Reuters by telephone from the north central town of Polonnaruwa that about 8,000 people had fled the violence of the past two days and were seeking sanctuary in temples and schools.

He said guerrillas stormed Seruwawila, Neelapola, Dehiwatta and Mahindapala, close to Trincomalee, burning homes and killing at least 50 residents.

Earlier the government said five people were killed and three critically wounded when guerrillas attacked Dehiwatta and Mahindapala. More than 50 homes were set on fire.

Troops and navy gunboats were being sent into the troubled areas where guerrillas are believed to have set up camp, he told Reuters.

State radio said Saturday that guerrillas broke into a West German radio relay station at Kuchchavellai on Friday and stole equipment including walkie-talkies.

He said guerrillas also robbed two vehicles belonging to radio station employees Saturday. The station, commissioned a few months ago, broadcasts to South Asian countries.

FBI finds plans to blow office in White House

NEW YORK (AP) — Files seized in an apartment used by self-proclaimed revolutionaries contain detailed plans to bomb the old executive office building in the White House complex, the Associated Press has learned.

Documents found in a file drawer marked "in progress" also include "very detailed" plans to bomb up to a dozen other federal offices in the Washington area and a building at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, according to an assistant U.S. attorney in Baltimore. The documents were found in an apartment in Baltimore, Maryland.

Evidence seized by the FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation) links groups whose members used the apartment to radical organisations suspected of 16 bombings since 1982, including one in November 1983 at the U.S. Capitol, the prosecutor said.

In interviews Thursday and Friday, investigators said the FBI also found explosives, timers, weapons, stolen cars, cash and false identity papers in recent raids at the apartment and at other suspected "safe houses" and garages in Pennsylvania, New York and Connecticut.

"It could be that we just got lucky and happened to catch them on the brink of a wave of attacks," said Barbara S. Sale, an assistant U.S. attorney in Baltimore. No timetable for carrying out the plans was found, she said.

The raids stemmed from the arrest May 11 of Marilyn Jean Buck, wanted in a botched 1981 armored car holdup north of New York in which a guard and two police officers were killed.

Prosecutors say the holdup was carried out by a coalition of radical political groups formed in the 1960s and '70s.

Mrs. Sale said the "roomful" of documents seized in Baltimore provided an exhaustive catalogue of the plans and activities of underground radicals thought to be responsible for bombings and robberies since the 1970s.

"It is unbelievable — there's more evidence than we can ever use," she said in a telephone interview.

She said one plan diagrammed the old executive office building, which is located within the White House complex and houses administration offices including an office of Vice-President George Bush and the office of management and budget.

The Secret Service, which is responsible for security at the complex, had no comment on the matter because criminal charges were pending, spokesman Michael Larr said Saturday. Ms. Buck's lawyer, Susan Tipograph, said Saturday evening that she was not aware of the allegations and declined to comment on them.

Prosecutors told the AP that the bombing plans, explosives, weapons and revolutionary literature found in the raids indicate that members of the radical groups remain active in their goal to overthrow the U.S. government.

Mrs. Sale said there was evidence linking the apartment to one group, the United Freedom Front (UFF). The UFF has been linked by the FBI to bomb attacks including one that damaged a Senate corridor in the Capitol in November 1983.

Tornado kills 88 in U.S., Canada

NEW YORK (R) — Rescue workers found at least 88 bodies in the path of killer tornadoes which slammed through southern Canada, Pennsylvania, Ohio and New York, and officials said they expected the death toll to rise.

The twisters apparently struck hardest in north western and central Pennsylvania Saturday night, leaving at least 61 people dead, emergency officials said.

Governor Dick Thornburgh declared 10 counties as emergency disaster areas Saturday after touring wreckage of torn-up power pylons, flattened homes, disrupted sewer and water lines and ripped-up natural gas pipes, which caused fires to break out in several towns, officials said.

In north eastern Ohio, 16 people were confirmed dead, but Ohio Disaster Assistance Agency officials scaled back from initial reports of 22 dead. The tiny town of Newton Falls was virtually levelled as more than 300 homes were severely damaged or destroyed and the central area was in a shambles.

The tornadoes left at least 11 dead in Ontario, as they struck north of Toronto, damaging hundreds of homes and cutting through a shopping centre.

"The houses and cars were tossed around like they were toys," said Wayne Harley, assistant emergency management director for Pennsylvania's Beaver County.

An Ohio disaster spokeswoman said there was a possibility of more than 16 deaths in the five counties which Governor Richard Celeste declared as emergency disaster areas.

In Niles, Ohio, a city of 25,000, the tornadoes left nine people confirmed dead and 44 in hospital. Damage was estimated at more than \$4 million, including 81 homes completely destroyed, the spokeswoman said.

Newton Falls and Niles were still without power Sunday.

Two separate tornado centres struck in Pennsylvania, the first Saturday afternoon, slamming an area 240 kilometres long in the north western section and left 36 people dead.

Another set of twisters struck central Pennsylvania early Sunday, killing at least five people in three counties.

Nearly 400 Pennsylvania National Guardsmen were helping to open roads and communication lines and clear debris, she said.

Four people died in Barrie, Ontario, and two others in nearby Alliston. A racetrack in Barrie was heavily damaged, as officials said cars and trucks were strewn about.



DESTRUCTION IN BARRIE: Roofless homes lie a testament to the destruction a tornado brought to Barrie in Ontario, Canada, on Friday afternoon. The storm destroyed hundreds of homes and caused several deaths (AP wirephoto)

NATO foreign ministers to try to bridge differences over SDI

BRUSSELS (R) — NATO foreign ministers will try to bridge deep differences over President Reagan's "Star Wars" space-based defence programme when they meet in Portugal next Thursday and Friday, alliance diplomats said.

The meeting is the most severe test of allied cohesion since the United States and the Soviet Union began talks in Geneva on nuclear and space weapons in March and a new, more challenging leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, took over in Moscow.

Among the European allies in the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), France, Norway, Denmark and Greece have criticised the U.S. Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) to develop a space-based defence against nuclear missiles and have rejected invitations to join it.

NATO diplomats said there was no chance the ministers this week

at their meeting in Estoril would agree to the sort of broad statement of support for SDI research that allied defence ministers issued at a nuclear planning meeting in March.

"If we're lucky we'll get some general language recognising that since the Soviets are doing work on strategic defence, it is prudent for allies to do their own research into these technologies. Not more," a senior diplomat said.

Diplomats said France had not yet made clear if it was ready to accept any endorsement of SDI in the Estoril communiqué.

They said the decision appeared to rest with President Francois Mitterrand who condemned the American programme at last month's Bonn Economic Summit and is urging the Europeans to run their own civilian research programme in the same field.

Although British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl

have given Mr. Reagan warm support on "Star Wars", their foreign ministers have both made critical comments and are known to be less enthusiastic.

The diplomats said some governments also wanted to see enshrined in the NATO communiqué U.S. pledges of full allied consultation and negotiations with the Soviet Union prior to any deployment of SDI systems.

Moscow says Washington should scrap its SDI programme as a condition for progress in U.S.-Soviet arms control negotiations. Another issue sure to be discussed in Estoril is continued U.S. observance of the 1979 Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT-2) with Moscow, which the U.S. Congress never ratified.

Mr. Reagan is due to announce on June 10 whether he will carry on respecting the treaty, which he has accused the Soviet Union of violating, or abandon it when it expires at the end of the year.

Radio commentator killed in Philippines

MANILA (R) — Gunmen on motorcycles roared through fiestas crowds and killed a radio commentator and an official in the central Philippines, police said Sunday.

Nabakodonosor Velez of Dila, a private radio station, was shot Saturday night in Cebu City shortly before he was to go on the air to broadcast his nightly public affairs programme.

Friends of 47-year-old Velez said he was a hard-hitting com-

mentator who frequently attacked the Communists.

Spectators including Velez' 19-year-old daughter saw the gunmen shoot him at close range then kill a village official, the Philippine News Agency said.

Another Dila commentator, Vicente Villardon, was shot dead in December.

Thousands of listeners heard a third radio commentator, Charlie Aberilla, moaning and gasping as he died on the air after being shot

by three gunmen who burst into his studio on the southern island of Mindanao in April. The military said Communist rebels killed him.

At least 12 journalists have been murdered in the Philippines in the past six years. Rebels captured in general Santos City in the south said Saturday they had killed two reporters earlier this year because they had betrayed the Communist New People's Army (NPA) by turning military informers.

Costa Rican border guard killed in ambush

SAN JOSE (R) — Nicaraguan troops ambushed a Costa Rican border patrol, killing one guard and wounding nine others investigating reports of an incursion by Sandinista forces, official sources have said.

In Managua, the Nicaraguan government issued a statement denying its troops were involved in the incident and called for an urgent meeting of a joint commission set up last year to prevent border incidents.

Col. Francisco Tacsan told Reuters the first time Costa Rican policemen had been killed or seriously wounded in frequent exchanges of gunfire and mortar bombs between the two countries in four years of tension in the guerrilla-infested border area.

The dead man was discovered

early Saturday as troops searched for 12 missing members of the patrol, presumed to have fled the clash, Red Cross spokesman Luis Huertas said.

Col. Tacsan said the 21-man Civil Guard patrol was attacked near Las Tricias, about 110 kilometres north of San Jose.

The U.S.-backed guerrillas fighting Managua's Sandinista government wear similar uniforms to and carry the same weapons as the Nicaraguan army.

A Sandinista anti-guerrilla drive in the last week has sent rebels fleeing into Costa Rica from their southern Nicaraguan bases and 20 have been arrested for carrying weapons on this side of the border, security authorities said.

Nicaragua's Defence Ministry said Saturday that its troops had

killed 375 guerrillas in nearly 60 clashes during the past two weeks.

It said the offensive included thrusts to the north, against rebels of the Honduras-based Nicaraguan Democratic Front, to the east, against Miskito Indian rebels, and to the south, against rebels of the Costa Rica-based Democratic Revolutionary Alliance.

Managua has repeatedly accused Costa Rica of allowing guerrilla bases in its territory. Costa Rica has banned guerrilla activity inside the country but allows rebel organisations from both Nicaragua and El Salvador to have political offices in San Jose.

Police chiefs say many Nicaraguans working legally there on big ranches in the north are part-time guerrillas supported by their anti-Communist employers.

Journalists tour site of foiled S. African raid in Angola

CABINDA, Angola (R) — Angolan soldiers described in grisly detail how they foiled a South African sabotage attempt on a U.S.-operated oil base, killing two commandos and capturing one.

The soldiers showed visiting foreign journalists fragments of the skull of one of the dead South Africans, together with a few spots of dried blood which appeared darker than the surrounding soil.

The clash occurred in the late afternoon of May 21, deeply embarrassing white-ruled South Africa which other African countries have frequently accused of using sabotage in a drive to curb what it terms a Communist threat in the region.

South Africa has denied its men were on a sabotage raid but said they were on a mission to gather information about guerrillas of the African National Congress (ANC) and South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) who Pretoria says are based in Angola.

Sub-Lieutenant Andriano Paulo said his suspicions were first aroused when he came across strange footprints in an area of bush

with the pro-Soviet Luanda government.

Gulf produces 170,000 barrels of oil per day, more than 85 per cent of total Angolan output, according to official figures.

Angolan officials said the South African commandos, if they had been successful, could have caused about \$200 million worth of damage to the base, plus \$250 million in lost production as well as destroying \$30 million worth of stored oil.

They also said 118 Americans worked at the plant, together with 811 Angolans and 130 other foreigners.

The Angolan state oil company Sonagol has a 51 per cent share in Cabinda Gulf, while the U.S. firm owns 49 per cent.

Cabinda province is defended partly by Cuban soldiers — whose presence in Angola has aroused Washington's strong opposition as the Reagan administration views them as surrogates of the Soviet Union.

Angolan officials said that following the South African sabotage attempt, journalists and other outsiders were no longer permitted to

visit the Gulf installation and U.S. oil workers were banned from leaving the compound.

But although on the alert against possible future raids, the general atmosphere seemed relaxed and one soldier was seen at a roadside checkpoint drinking a can of American beer.

Oil is crucial to the Angolan economy, as about 90 per cent of the country's foreign exchange earnings are derived from petroleum exports.

The bungled raid occurred at a particularly embarrassing time for South Africa, as it announced only a month before that it had completed a long-delayed withdrawal of its troops from southern Angola which it invaded in late 1983.

Talks between South Africa and Angola have focused on means of achieving independence for Namibia (South West Africa), which Pretoria rules in defiance of United Nations resolutions.

South Africa has refused to quit Namibia until all Cuban troops withdraw from Angola, but Luanda and Havana, and most African countries reject this condition.



Indonesian extremist sentenced to death

JAKARTA (R) — A Muslim extremist has been sentenced to death for subversion and trying to topple the government of President Suharto, Indonesia's official Antara News Agency said Sunday. Bambang Sisipoy, 36, leader of an extremist Islamic group called Komando Jihad (holy warriors command) was found guilty Saturday of terrorism in the late 1970s. Antara did not say when he was arrested nor how long the trial lasted. Sisipoy ordered two murders which were carried out. Antara quoted the judge as saying, The judge said Sisipoy and his friends sought to establish an Islamic state in Indonesia.

China celebrates Children's Day

PEKING (AP) — China's government celebrated international Children's Day Saturday by letting them ride buses and watch movies for free, throwing a party for 40,000 children and parading Communist young pioneers in Peking's central square. The activities were the lead item on state-run television news, which showed 10,000 young pioneers assembled in Tiananmen Square.

Wearing red neckerchiefs, Vice Premier Wan Li, party secretary member Hao Jinxia, politburo member Wang Zhen and other prominent officials joined a party for 40,000 youngsters in the Great Hall of the People, adjacent to Tiananmen. TV footage showed them joining in children's games that ranged from remote-control car racing to target shooting at a toy hopscotch.

The official news agency Xinhua said about 2,000 foreign children attended the party. Most apparently were from families of diplomats.

Mr. Reagan is due to announce on June 10 whether he will carry on respecting the treaty, which he has accused the Soviet Union of violating, or abandon it when it expires at the end of the year.

Teacher to auction celebrity memorabilia

GARDEN GROVE, California (AP) — King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and Solidarity leader Lech Walesa sent autographed photos, actress Elizabeth Taylor donated a tote bag, and Olympic Diver Greg Louganis gave swim trunks in an effort to boost students' reading abilities. English teacher Sara Hess will stage her second annual Reader's Celebrity Auction later this week at Pacifica High School.

Students who accumulate points for reading can use those points to bid for the celebrity memorabilia. "In addition to getting students to do more reading, they are finding out that people they might admire feel reading is important," Ms. Hess said. Rock star Stevie Wonder, actor Burt Lancaster and Britain's Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher also gave autographed pictures. Students, accumulating one point per 100 pages, averaged 50 points, but four of them amassed 200 apiece. Ms. Hess estimated that 130 potential auction participants read more than 3,000 novels, plays or biographies. "I've found out this is a lot more work than I thought it would be, but I do believe more books are getting read that would not have been read before," she said. "The students are reading to get something, and after all, that is the great American way, isn't it?"

10 arrested, 140 hurt at Springsteen concert

SLANE, Ireland (AP) — Some 100,000 rock fans Saturday invaded this sleepy village on the River Boyne, roaring in unison as Bruce Springsteen kicked off a European tour. Promoters had promised none of the violence that erupted when Bob Dylan played at the same venue last July — and despite some 140 injuries reported by hospitals and 10 arrests, they stuck to their word. Most of the injured suffered from heat exhaustion and minor cuts and bruises as fans pressed forward to hear Springsteen and at the end of the concert when they surged through the exits. "The crowd was excellent ... I was exceptionally well pleased with them — so much so that I had a message read to them thanking them over the loudspeaker," said Chief Superintendent Michael Bohan, police divisional commander for the area. There were no violent incidents. Of those arrested, four were held for having marijuana, three for drunkenness and three for trying to get in with forged tickets, said Bohan. Hospital authorities said none of the injured was seriously hurt, though 22 people were admitted to two hospitals. Lourdes Hospital at nearby Drogheda and Our Lady's Hospital at Navan.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
 ♠ Q85 ♦ Q1095432 ♣ A62
 The bidding has proceeded:
 North East South
 1 ♣ 2 ♣
 What action do you take?
 Q2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
 ♠ 6 ♣ AKQJ8 ♦ Q3 ♣ KQJ6
 Your partner deals and passes, as does your right-hand opponent. What is your opening bid?
 Q3—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
 ♠ KJ762 ♦ 93 ♦ Q88 ♣ AJ3
 The bidding has proceeded:
 North East South West
 1 ♣ Pass 1 ♣ Pass
 2 ♣ Pass 2 NT Pass
 3 ♣ Pass ?
 What action do you take?
- Q4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
 ♠ K103 ♦ 109763 ♣ AJ6 ♣ K4
 The bidding has proceeded:
 South West North East
 Pass Pass 1 ♣ Pass
 ?
 What do you bid now?
 Q5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
 ♠ AQJ63 ♦ J6 ♦ 872 ♣ 982
 The bidding has proceeded:
 East South West North
 1 ♣ Pass Pass Dble
 2 ♣ ? Pass 3 ♣
 ?
 What action do you take?
 Q6—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
 ♠ 3 ♦ Q109754 ♣ A65 ♣ 972
 Partner opens the bidding with one no trump. What do you respond?